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THURSDAY MARCH 5TH, 2020

Calls for prosecution after teen plunged to his death abroad - see page three

IN BUSINESS ADVERTISING/ADVERTORIAL FEATURE IN BUSINESS
LOCAL NEEDS, LOCAL SERVICES

Tributes to teenager killed in early morning crash

TRIBUTES have been paid to a teenager who died after a collision in Barry during the early hours of last Saturday morning.

Pedestrian Mason Richardson, aged 19, was killed following a collision with a blue Citroen C1 along the A4226 at around 2.30am.

Police have revealed Mr Richardson was from Boverton in Llantwit Major.

His family said in a statement: "The family of Mason Richardson wish to express their heartfelt thanks and appreciation to those who have sent messages of sympathy and floral tributes during this difficult time.

"Mason was a much loved son and friend who was loved and liked by many, which is evident through the amount of messages being sent."

The statement added: "A much loved and liked character from the Llantwit Major area, he will be sorely missed by his loving parents and friends alike.

"Rest in peace mason."

South Wales Police is continuing to appeal for information following the collision.

Officers would like to speak to anyone who may have witnessed the Citroen's manner of driving or seen two pedestrians walking in the area between 2am and 2.30am.

Motorists who may have dash-cam footage of the incident is also being urged to get in contact with officers.

Anyone with information should call police on 101 quoting occurrence 2000074049.

Council comes up with new plan for primary schools

THE Vale Council has announced a change of heart over the future of Y Bont Faen Primary School in Cowbridge.

Last November, the council announced plans to close the school and instead build a large 420-place primary school in the grounds of Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

That new school would be part of the comprehensive school – a model already in place in Ysgol Bro Morgannwg in Barry.

This plan was opposed by Y Bont Faen's governors, who said they could see no benefit in a 'straight-through' school where primary pupils moved automatically into the secondary school.

The governors also accused the Vale Council of failing to invest in the fabric of the school, saying that it had suffered from a "despicable" lack of investment.

Now, the council has published revised plans which it says will "meet the increasing demand for English medium primary school places in Cowbridge".

The new plan involves keeping Y Bont Faen Primary, but also building a smaller new school with 210 places in the grounds of Cowbridge Comprehensive. This would still be a 'straight through' school.

The Vale Council said that the consultation into its proposals had closed in January with 67 per cent of respondents opposing the proposal.

A spokesperson said: "As a result, the council has listened to the feedback from parents, teaching staff, governors and local councillors and has revised the proposals.

A council spokesperson insisted: "There is still a need to meet increased demand for primary school places in Cowbridge. However, there was little support for amalgamating Y Bont Faen Primary with Cowbridge Comprehensive School and, having considered the feedback received, another feasible proposal has been identified."

Under the revised proposals, the council would seek to change the age range of Cowbridge Comprehensive School from 11–19 to 3–19.

Story continued on page four

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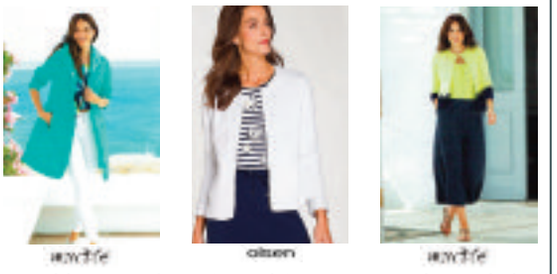

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Readers' Letters

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address, contact telephone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Grateful thanks for care

AFTER a lengthy stay in the Princess of Wales Hospital, I was released into the hands of carers from the Vale Practice in Barry.

I should like to express my sincere thanks to this wonderful group of ladies. I was pretty helpless with low morale at that time, and these dear ladies kept me clean and comfortable every day, gave me good advice and cheered me up.

Thank you so much Linda, Natalie, Gwen, Helen, Deborah and all the others whose names I may have left out. I will never forget your kindness, and thank you all for giving me back my independence.

Thanks also to my dear family, friends and neighbours who supported me during this time and to the practice nurses who came every day.

Deirdre A Mollart, Llantwit Major.

Calling all veterans!

WE are the Barry Veterans Group that meets weekly at the Witchill Community Hall, Dyfan Road.

Born out of another group, we are a fledgling group whose focus is veterans from Barry and the surrounding areas, but still retaining links with established and national bodies.

If you fancy a cuppa and a chat and wish to make or renew friendships, join us between 10am-1pm on Tuesday or the first Saturday of the month.

J W Edwards, Barry Veterans/Change Step.

'Spend money on worthwhile projects'

AS Vale of Glamorgan councillors review the environmental issues surrounding the Barry incinerator, surely it's time for them to do the same for the outdated plan for an M4 airport link road through the Ely Valley that will cost taxpayers over £100 million?

Recent flooding around Peterston Super Ely and Pendoylan clearly shows the river is under pressure and the run-off from the concrete and tarmac of the council's planned new freight road, as well as the destruction of water-slowing ancient woodlands, can't do anything but make flooding worse.

The road plan, first proposed in 2017, urgently needs an independent environmental impact assessment – at the very least, as it is out of synch with the council's declaration of a Climate Emergency. Better still, this damaging plan needs to be abandoned and the money spent on more worthwhile projects.

M Lloyd, Peterston Super Ely

Lack of drop down kerbs in Cowbridge

ON Saturday night we had a very successful turn out for our Cowbridge Ghost Walk.

For the first time in five years, we were joined by a wheelchair user. We started from outside Holy Cross Church, where the drop down kerbs are visible, then across the Southgate which understandably was a structure built with defence in mind.

We proceeded towards the old toilet block at The Butts towards the cattle market, but to access the pavement heading towards the High Street on the right hand side was impossible for the wheelchair user without the assistance of three of my guests. Heading towards North Road and on to the public toilets at the rear of the town hall, there was no drop down pavement.

This is unacceptable for our disabled community. How does the Vale of Glamorgan Council respond to this?

Karl-James Langford, Barry.

'MP should stop trying to score cheap political points'

I REFER to the article in last week's Gem where our MP, Alun Cairns, takes issue with the Council Tax rises in the Vale over the past 10 years.

During this time, councils across Wales have had to deal with the consequences of austerity administered by his Government. I will agree that in the early years of austerity, there were savings to be made with little consequence to council services but in later years, it has been impossible to make savings without having a devastating effect on the very services which are supposed to support the most vulnerable in our society.

The effect of continuing austerity has meant that local authorities have had to increase Council Tax to maintain these essential services, the burden moving to them rather than UK and Wales Governments to fund them. If local government settlements had kept up with inflation over the past 10 years, there would have been no need for Council Tax to be increased by more than inflation.

It would also be preferable if Alun compared the Vale with Welsh rather than English authorities, then we would see that the Council Tax in the Vale is well below the Welsh average and the increases in the past few years have been some of the lowest in Wales.

I am tired of hearing how Alun negotiated a deal where Wales receives £120 for every £100 spent in England; the fact is that if councils are unable to adequately provide vital services with the settlement they receive, then there is no option but to raise council tax or cut services.

Alun also claims that Council Tax increases 'undermine the work being done to attract investment' when he knows full well that increases in Council Tax have no bearing on business rates which are set by the District Valuer, and collected by the councils an behalf of Welsh Government.

Can I respectfully suggest that Alun stops trying to score cheap political points and instead champions local government, and campaigns within his party for a fair settlement for all councils in England and Wales.

Councillor John Thomas, St Athan Ward.

Smacking ban not 'trivial'

HAVING read Mrs Morris' letter, I am convinced that I'm misunderstanding her intent when she describes the smacking ban on children as 'trivia'.

Has she actually written in and publicly declared her support of hitting children? I would love her to get on her soapbox in Cowbridge town centre, expounding her declaration.

Surely when talking to children, patience and empathy are prerequisites? Once you hit a child, any respect they had becomes fear, and commanding a child's fear is defintely not the same as commanding a child's love.

The rest of her message does convey a sense of the hyperbolic, however; stating that education is 'totally devalued' and that the minister 'embarassed himself on the world stage'.

I haven't yet seen mention of it in the international press, but I await eagerly.

Rob Abushal, Barry.

Bombs on the beach

AFTER reading Karl-James Langford's recent letter, I don't understand how he can blame the two people that were singled out and probably not even born until after the Second World War.

The fact is, during major conflicts, many ships and submarines were sunk full of armaments, planes were shot down full of bombs, many mines were laid in the sea.

It should be quite frightening how much stuff is down there waiting to be found, especially in a highly corrosive salty environment.

After the First World War and during the Second World War, bigger, better and more dangerous armaments were lost to the sea. Towards the end of the war and in the 1950s, countries were testing out nuclear bombs in the sea.

I am surprised that the fish that we catch and eat are not glowing with radiation or full of cordite ready to explode in our faces – look at mankind's inability to live in peace to blame, and not these two individuals. Just be careful, Karl, not to tread on the next UXB!

James Wild, Llantwit Major.

'Pawsome' afternoon tea

ARE you a cat lover who enjoys baking?

If so, Cats Protection would like your help to raise money for cats in need by hosting a Pawsome Afternoon Tea event in April. Organising an event is easy and you can hold the event in your home, workplace or school.

This year, *Masterchef* winner Tim Anderson and *Bake Off* star Kim-Joy are supporting the event by providing their own recipes to help support the cause.

Now in its fourth year, the event provides a wonderful opportunity to spend quality time with loved ones enjoying some bakes, as well as raising funds to help the many unwanted cats in our care.

To register for a free Pawsome Afternoon Tea pack and to view Tim and Kim-Joy's recipes, please visit www.pawsometea.org

Zoe Thompson, Cats Protection.

Where is the investment?

IN your article 'MP furious at (Council) tax increases' (Cowbridge and Llantwit Gem, February 20) you quote Alun Cairns as claiming that he had 'negotiated a new settlement which sees Wales receive £120 for every £100 spent in England'.

Mr Cairn's '£120 for every £100 spent in England' relates to the annual block grant Wales receives from Westminster to cover public expenditure in devolved areas of government, specifically to any consequential payments added to match any activity undertaken by England in these areas.

All political commentators, with the exception of the Tory Government, have always argued that public expenditure levels between regions ought to be dictated by need rather than population size, a concept first mooted in 2010 by the independent Holtham Commission.

So Mr Cairns' contribution has involved finally giving ground after 10 years of Welsh Assembly pressure to a needs-based, not population-based, formula.

Without agreeing to review what ratio this should be, they have settled on £120 for every £100, £5 above the current level of £115, which happens to be the level recommended by the original Holtham Commission.

The £120 also only becomes available if England actually spend the £100 in the first place. And the succession of austerity budgets that the Tory party have delivered over this past decade have seen Wales's Block Grant, in both real terms and per capita, decline by 5% since 2011-12.

This has resulted in the Welsh Government having to divert funds intended for local councils to cover the deficit, which in turn has meant these councils having themselves to increase their rates to fund their operations.

So the rise in rates so strongly condemned by Mr Cairns is a direct result of his own government's austerity policies.

Mr Cairns also conveniently omits to mention that the £120 for £100 so called deal only relates to devolved activities, the block grant only actually accounting for a quarter of Welsh Public Expenditure.

Looking at the total spend, Wales comes in at only £111 per head above England's £100, which must mean that there are areas of government, specifically non devolved areas still handled by Westminster, where England's spend must be decidedly greater than Wales.

And such is the case, particularly in the area of investment as opposed to social protection. Wales, while accounting for 8% of the railway network, only receives 1% of Network Rail investment, and this is before we have added the £100bn for HS2 into the equation.

Research and Development spend is £5 a head in Wales, compared to £54 just in London.

Where is this investment Mr Cairns talks about?

I feel Mr Cairns has misled and misinformed us a touch.

Is it not time that he stopped being the Conservative Party's obedient mouthpiece in Wales, and fulfilled his proper job description positively representing Wales (previously) and the Vale of Glamorgan in Westminster?.

Peter Daniels, Llantwit Major.

HIGH TIDE TIMES

The high tides listed in this week's Gem are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tides times will vary. For instance, in Barry the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

UNTIL MARCH 12

Date	Time	Height (metres)
05/03/2020	01.53	7.3
05/03/2020	14.44	7.7
06/03/2020	03.21	8.0
06/03/2020	15.59	8.3
07/03/2020	04.28	8.5
07/03/2020	17.01	8.8
08/03/2020	05.22	9.3
08/03/2020	17.51	9.6
09/03/2020	06.11	9.9
09/03/2020	18.36	10.1
10/03/2020	06.57	10.5
10/03/2020	19.22	10.6
11/03/2020	07.41	10.8
11/03/2020	20.05	10.8
12/03/2020	08.24	10.7
12/03/2020	20.45	10.6

While the Gem makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Calls for prosecution after teen plunged to his death at Majorca hotel

By Sam Hall
Reporter
sam.hall@glamorgan-gem co.uk

PRIME Minister Boris Johnson has been urged to put pressure on the Spanish authorities to instigate a criminal prosecution after a teenager from the Vale of Glamorgan died at a hotel abroad.

Thomas Channon, from Rhoose, died after falling some seven floors over a knee-high wall at the Eden Roc Complex in Majorca in July 2018.

The 18-year-old had taken a trip abroad with a group of friends to celebrate the end of their A-Level exams and had been out watching a World Cup football match on the night of the fall.

An inquest into the youngster's death, held last year, heard that the spot where Mr Channon fell was "dangerous" because of the low height of the wall and large drop on the other side.

Mr Channon was the third holidaymaker to die at the hotel in a year with Thomas Hughes, aged 20, dying in similar circumstances just a month earlier.

Coroner Graeme Hughes said that Mr Channon's death could have been prevented if simple safety steps - including erecting a fence – were take after Mr Hughes' death.

Vale of Glamorgan MP Alun Cairns this week called on the Prime Minister to step in and help secure justice for Thomas and his family.

Mr Cairns said during Prime Minister's Questions yesterday: "My constituent Tom Channon tragically died at the Eden Roc Complex in Majorca in July 2018 in an accident that was preventable and avoidable.

"This was just five weeks after Tom Hughes from Wrexham fell to his death at the same site in similar circumstances. Nothing had been done to make the area safe."

He told the House of Commons: "An independent surveyor's report shows significant health and safety deficiencies.

"Tom's parents John and Ceri Channon have been calling for a criminal case to be brought against those responsible.

"Will the Prime Minister use all his influence to press the Spanish authorities to instigate a criminal prosecution that will not only seek justice for Tom, but will also facilitate improved health and safety standards across accommodation in Majorca to help prevent similar tragedies in the future?"

The Prime Minister replied: "I thank my Right Honourable Friend very much for raising what sounds like an appalling case and I'm sure the whole House will join with me in expressing our deepest sympathies to Tom's family and friends. To seek justice for Tom, I am very happy to ask the Foreign Office to begin talks with him and then, of course, our Spanish counterparts."

Tom Channon (left) with his brothers Harry and James

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Campaign to save old Sixth Form building calls a public meeting

THE group campaigning to save the old girls school on Aberthin Road, Cowbridge, will be collecting petition signatures outside Cafe Nero in the town again this Saturday (March 7) from 10am until 3pm.

The housing association, Hafod, has submitted plans to demolish the old school building and build a total of 34 new homes.

The campaigners, in contrast, want the building retained and converted into apartments.

A spokesperson told The Gem: "Our campaigning last Saturday was a great success with over 350 signatures collected, taking the Welsh Assembly petition beyond the 1,600 signature mark.

The group, which goes by the name 'Demolition & Redevelopment of Old Sixth Form, Aberthin Road, Cowbridge' has organised a public consultation event at the Town Hall, Cowbridge, on Thursday, March 12 between 6pm and 8pm.

The spokesperson said: "Members of the public are invited to come and find out more about the planning application, the campaign to save the school from demolition, sign the petitions and register their objections. The meeting will be supported by local and national representatives of the community.

"The group has also looked into reports that people have been struggling to sign the Welsh Assembly petition online. The Petitions Committee has been notified and are investigating. However, in the meantime anyone wishing to sign the petition who is unable to do so online can call 0300 200 6565 during normal working hours and ask for Petitions, before requesting to sign PETITION 1741. "Alternatively you can email *website@assembly.wales* quoting 'Petition 1741' and providing your name and address."

Train station to receive share of £300m improvement fund

VALE MP Alun Cairns has received confirmation from the Secretary of State for Transport that Llantwit Major train station will be included in the UK Government's £300m Access For All programme.

Llantwit Major will benefit from the installation of a new lift, making the station accessible for people with disabilities and mobility issues.

The UK Government confirmed funding from their £20m Mid-Tier Access for All programme, which includes upgrades at 124 railway stations across Great Britain.

In his letter, Transport Secretary Grant Shapps MP expressed the Government's priority for the transport system to be the best in the world for disabled people.

Additionally, he set out the Government's commitment to improving accessibility across all types of transport, which is why the Inclusive Transport Strategy was launched last year to create a transport system offering equal access for people with disabilities.

Mr Cairns said: "I am delighted to see investment at Llantwit Major train station. This is a very well used station and it's so important that it receives the necessary upgrades to enable people with disabilities to access public transport locally.

"This is in addition to upgrades that we've already secured on the Vale line at Barry and Cadoxton stations. I'm also pleased that the UK Government has been engaged with the Alzheimer's Society, among other groups and stakeholders, on the 'It's Everyone's Journey' campaign.

"Residents will be aware of my initiative to make Llantwit a Dementia Friendly town and it's important that the related issues are a key consideration for the future of public transport."

Vale of Glamorgan MP Alun Cairns, who said he was delighted with the news, at Llantwit Major.

Council comes up with new plan for primary schools

STORY CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

THE capacity of Cowbridge Comprehensive School would also be increased to accommodate 210 primary school places, with an additional 48 part-time nursery places available.

Therefore, a new primary school building would be constructed on the site of Cowbridge Comprehensive School.

Y Bont Faen Primary school, as a result, would remain on its current site with its existing capacity.

Cllr Lis Burnett, the Vale Council's deputy leader and cabinet member for education and regeneration, said: "It was clear from responses to the previous consultation that there is an emotive attachment to Y Bont Faen Primary school and its current site.

"There are also strong links to the community given its current proximity to Cowbridge town centre and an ambition in the town to promote and maintain sustainable travel. "Therefore, we have listened to the feedback from parents, teachers and the governing body and under the revised proposals, Y Bont Faen Primary School would remain as it is.

"Some concerns were raised about the state of the current school building and these will be addressed at a later stage. Parents also raised concerns about the affect the previous proposals would have on the teaching staff and ethos of Y Bont Faen Primary School.

"Whilst these concerns were mitigated in the detail provided under the consultation, we hope that the new proposal will be seen as a positive alternative."

The GEM approached the governing body for comment, but none had been received as we went to press.

However, given the governors earlier remarks about investment in the fabric of the school, it is likely that they will be looking for clarification on this issue.

The council will need to undertake a statutory consultation on the new proposals, under the School Organisation Code. If approved by cabinet on March 9, this consultation would run from March 16 until May 1.

Vale MP Alun Cairns said: ""The Vale Council's statement on the proposed school merger, unfortunately, raises more questions than it answers. With one hand, the Council is closing schools like Llancarfan and on the other is building new schools with no explanation of where the pupils will be coming from."

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS LLANFLEIDDAN Rhif 51) (CAU DROS DRO) 2020

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill yn cynnig, mewn dim llai na 7 diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, wneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATODLEN 1

Ni chaiff unrhyw un gerdded yn y lleoliadau a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad Bydd Llwybr Cyhoeddus (Hawliau Tramwy Cyhoeddus) a adwaenir fel Llanfleiddan Rhif 51 ar gau o'r pwynt lle mae'r llwybr hwn yn cwrdd â Llantwit Major Road, y Bont-faen ar grid 298419 174557, gan barhau i'r gogledd-orllewin at lle mae'r llwybr troed hwn yn cwrdd â'r Hawl Tramwy Cyhoeddus a elwir Llanfleiddan Rhif 50, ar grid 298248 174735.

Llwybr Amgen Yn ystod y cau hwn fydd dim gwyriad sydd dal ar agor ar gael.

Rheswm Atal perygl i'r cyhoedd o ganlyniad i waith adeiladu.

Hyd O 00.01 Dydd Iau 12 Mawrth 2020 am gyfnod hyd at chwe mis

Dyddiedig 5 Mawrth 2020
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THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (LLANBLETHIAN PUBLIC FOOTPATH No 51) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2020

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall proceed on foot in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

Location Footpath (Public Rights of Way) known as Llanblethian Number 51 closed from the point from where this path meets the Llantwit Major Road, Cowbridge at grid 298419 174557, and continuing in a north westerly direction to where this footway meets the Public Right of Way known as Llanblethian No 50, at grid 298248 174735.

Alt. Route During this closure no diversion will be available.

Reason To prevent danger to the Public as a result of construction works being carried out.

Duration From 00.01 on Thursday 12th March 2020 for a maximum period of six months

Dated this 5th day of March 2020
Director of Visible Services & Housing
Vale of Glamorgan Council, The Alps,
Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

St David's festival will be re-arranged

A ST David's Festival that fell victim to flooding will be re-arranged, a spokesman for the organisers has told The Gem.

He said: "Unfortunately, last Friday's floods put paid to the St David's Festival planned for St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major, featuring local male voice choir, Cor Meibion y Machlud and the school choir from Ysgol Gymraeg Dewi Sant.

"However, the choirs are still determined to celebrate our patron saint in style, so the concert is to be rearranged for as soon as possible after Easter. So ticket holders – please hang on to your tickets, which will still be valid for the revised date. And keep a look out in the local press, in Nickleby's Bookshop, Llantwit Major and Barnes Dry Cleaners in Cowbridge and at the church itself for the new date."

Youngsters celebrate Dydd Gŵyl Dewi

EVERY year on Saint David's Day, March 1, the Welsh Patron Saint is celebrated and, as this was a Sunday, Ysgol Gymraeg Morgannwg's primary pupils got to dress in traditional Welsh clothing to celebrate their Welsh heritage.

Up in the secondary school, a band from year 7, 'Dagrau'r Tân' performed to pupils from years 7 and 6.

Mr Hywel Price, headteacher said: "The Welsh language and culture is very important to us here. Therefore, it is essential that we celebrate our Welsh heritage and ethos, and what better way to do that than to wear our traditional clothing and to listen to Welsh language music!"

Dydd Gŵyl Dewi Hapus i bawb!

Community fundraise for mum's cancer treatment

A FAMILY has said it is overwhelmed by the support from the community to raise money for a mother's cancer treatment.

Bethan Durkin was diagnosed with secondary bone cancer towards the end of last year with a primary cancer in her lungs.

The 33-year-old, who is from Trerhyngyll, lives with husband 34-year-old Mark and their daughters five-year-old Rhiannon and one-year-old Olivia in Tongwynlais.

Ms Durkin's sister Sian Wiseman, 31, said: "It's been overwhelming. We never realised how much support we would get. We put £300,000 down as out goal on the Go Fund Me page because we're trying to raise as much as possible. To think we raised nearly £20k in such a short amount of time is amazing. It has come from people we know, but a lot of it has also come from people we don't know. The community really has rallied around us."

It started for Bethan with a pain in her hip which began shortly after her youngest daughter was discharged from hospital – Olivia had needed a heart operation as she had been diagnosed with Truncus Arterious as a result of DiGeorge Syndrome after she was born meaning her heart was missing a valve.

The baby, who was given a 40% survival rate at birth, had the operation when she was only nine days old and had two cardiac arrests on the operating table before spending three months in intensive care.

Ms Wiseman said: "When we found out about Olivia we were all devastated and upset. When we found out about Bethan, it was a new feeling – I've never been in a place like that in my life. As a family we were broken. My parents were and are different people. It is truly awful, but it's one of those things."

While Ms Durkin is currently receiving treatment which is worth an estimated £4,000 a month on the NHS, it's not known how long it will be effective.

Ms Wiseman said: "It won't work forever. For some people it works for three months and for others it will last for ten years. Plan B, which is for when it stops working, costs about £4,000 but it isn't not covered by the NHS and neither is Plan C. We're trying to raise as much as possible to give Bethan those chances in life."

As well as fundraising online via Go Fund Me, Bethan's cousin Anthony Green has organised a darts marathon, one of a few fund raising events by family, at The Three Golden Cups in Southerndown to help raise funds from midday until midnight on Saturday, March 21.

Mr Green said: "Alan Williams, who's the pub landlord, said he was happy for us to use the pub for the marathon. So far there's teams from St Brides, the Farmers Arms and I've got a rag-tag team."

To donate to the Go Fund Me Page, which so far has raised just over £18K, visit https://www.gofundme.com/f/heybeth.

Plant Llantwit springs into second year

RESIDENTS in Llantwit Major are being invited to spring into action with Plant Llantwit this week.

Holding its first Annual General Meeting on Saturday, community group is aiming to plant more trees and wildflower spaces around Llantwit Major.

In its first year, Plant Llantwit smashed its target of planting 1,000 trees, growing to more than 220 members by December. The next mass tree planting is planned for later this month, coordinated by Llantwit Major Town Council.

A spokesperson said: "We will be discussing our plans around tree planting, community gardening and the new Plant Llantwit allotment for our second year, having a Seed and Plant Swap alongside the important AGM business. If you're interested in green issues and want to plant more trees locally and see more planting generally, we'd love to see you; all ages are welcome.

"We're also looking to elect officers as chair, secretary and treasurer.

If you think you could give some time to these roles or simply want to get more involved on one specific activity or project, please get in touch."

Plant Llantwit's AGM takes place on Saturday, March 7 at 10.30am in Llantwit Major Bowls Club. All are welcome to join or renew membership for 2020 (£1, free for under 16s). For insurance purposes, membership is essential to participate in planting and allotment activities.

For more information on Plant Llantwit membership, new planting activities, community gardening initiatives and new community allotment, visit the Plant Llantwit Facebook page or email plantllantwit@gmail.com.

SJ COACH TRAVEL

2020 DAY TRIPS

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Date	Destination	Price
Sun. Mar. 22nd	Mother's Day - Bath	A £22 / C £20
Sat. Mar. 28th	Hop Pocket Shopping Village & Hereford	A £22 / C £20
Sat. April 4th	Wells Market & Clarks Village	A £22 / C £20
Sat. April 11th	Easter Saturday - Torquay or Paignton	A £25 / C £23
Mon. April 13th	Easter Monday - Weston Super Mare	A £22 / C £20
Sat. April 18th	West Midland Safari Park (includes entry)	A £37 / C £35
Sat. May 2nd	Wild Place Project - Bristol (includes entry)	A £29 / C £27
Sat. May 9th	RHS Malvern Spring Festival (entry not included)	A £22 / C £20
Sun. May 17th	London At Leisure	A £28 / C £26
Sat. May 23rd	Tenby or Folly Farm (entry not included)	A £22 / C £20
Mon. May 25th	Bank Holiday Monday - Weymouth	A £25 / C £23
Sat. May 30th	Mystery Tour	A £25 / C £23
Sat. June 6th	Bournemouth	A £25 / C £23
Sat. June 13th	Windsor or Legoland (entry not included)	A £25 / C £23
Sat. June 20th	Newton Abbot Market & Teignmouth	A £25 / C £23
Sat. June 27th	Weston Super Mare - Armed Forces Day & Air Show	A £22 / C £20
Sat. July 4th	Carmarthen & National Botanic Gardens	A £29 / C £26
Sun. July 12th	Longleat Safari Park (entry included)	A £49 / C £39
Sat. July 18th	Cheltenham & Bourton-on-the-Water	A £22 / C £20
Tues. July 21st	Royal Welsh Show (entry not included)	A £22 / C £20
Sat. July 25th	Exeter & Exmouth	A £25 / C £23
Sun. Aug. 2nd	Paultons Park & Peppa Pig World (entry included)	A £53 / C £49
Sat. Aug. 8th	Sidmouth or Crealy Theme Park (entry not included)	A £25 / C £23
Sat. Aug. 15th	Stratford Upon Avon	A £25 / C £23

To book please ring 01443 571552 or send me a message on Facebook. Please see my Facebook page SJ Coach Travel or my website www.sjcoachtravel.com for more information on all the day trips we have available. You can also follow us on Instragram.

Departure points: Bridgend RFC / Odeon Cinema McArthur Glen Pencoed / Llanharan / Talbot Green / Cardiff West Services

The Rotary Club of Llantwit hear from the Trussell Trust

FOR some years the Rotary Club of Llantwit Major has supported the local Foodbank.

Last week Phil and Becky Morgan joined Rotary at their meeting at the West House Hotel to give members an update on the local operation. The speakers represented the Trussell Trust, which is responsible for the administration of 1,200 foodbanks including the one in Llantwit Major.

They explained that the trust oversees the working of local foodbanks to ensure that all health and safety requirements are met.

Recipients of the food bank are, in the first instance, referred to them by organisations such as Citizens Advice and social workers, after which vouchers can be issued. Normally three vouchers would be issued in a six month period with the content of the food parcels taking account of the number in the family. A third are on low incomes, 20% already on benefits and 12% affected by changes in benefit payments.

The visitors explained that all Vale foodbanks are supplied from a central warehouse in Barry. In addition to food, parcels can contain other essential items such as aids to hygiene and also useful recipes to encourage preparation of simple but nutritious meals. To keep down costs all local foodbanks are staffed by volunteers.

Rotary president Anthony thanked the visitors for their interesting and informative presentation. He in turn was thanked by them for Rotary's continued support.

JR

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Defibrillator installed after pupils raise more than £1,000

A LIFE-SAVING piece of equipment has been installed in St Nicholas after youngsters from the village's primary school launched a successful fundraising appeal.

Pupils, staff and parents at St Nicholas Church in Wales Primary School drummed up £1,020 through a fun day of healthy sporting activities to pay for a defibrillator.

The defibrillator, which was purchased late last year, has now been installed in the doorway at the front of the school.

Although the pupils raised the bulk of the cash needed, villagers also chipped in £125 and the Community Council paid the remaining balance.

Cllr Emma del Torto, vice-chairman of the council, recently handed out copies of AJ and Uda's First Aid Adventures to school children as a thank you for their fundraising efforts.

St Nicholas with Bonvilston Community Council will be holding a one-day first aid training course on March 21 at 10am in Trehill Presbyterian Church for residents and community organisations in the area.

It's hoped a defibrillator training day will take place later in the year.

Cllr Emma del Torto presenting youngsters with copies of AJ and Uda's First Aid Adventures.

Actors meet evacuee ahead of wartime play

PENARTH Operatic and Dramatic Society (PODS) will be staging the wartime drama Goodnight Mister Tom, based on the book of the same name by Michelle Magorian, at the Paget Rooms later this month.

The story centres around evacuee, William Beech, and this week Sam Dacey, who plays William, and the other children in the cast met up with a real evacuee to find out what life during the war was really like for children who were moved from their homes.

Brian Gardner, a long-standing member of PODS, was evacuated along with hundreds of other children from Cardiff in 1940 at the age of five.

"I was away from home for several years during the war," said Brian to the children as they asked him about his experiences as an evacuee.

"I lived with a lovely family and moving to the countryside seemed like a great adventure at the time."

When the children asked Brian whether he missed his family during his time as an evacuee, he told them that he went home at Christmas and Easter but that he also made lots of new friends in the village amongst other evacuees.

Many children who were evacuated during the Second World War have fascinating stories to tell about their time away from home. Meeting Brian and talking to him about his experiences was like a living history lesson for the children in the Goodnight Mister Tom cast.

"My character is an evacuee who is sent away during the war, so it was amazing to talk to someone who had actually done this," said Sam Dacey.

The play's director, Kim Herniman, said: "Most children today couldn't imagine being sent away from home to live in a strange place with people they had never met. We felt it was important for the children in the cast to hear what it was really like from someone who had been an evacuee. We're really grateful to Brian for sharing his memories with us - his recollections were fascinating and brought a tear to many an eye in the room."

Goodnight Mister Tom is on at the Paget Rooms from March 18-20.

Tickets are available from www.ticketsource.co.uk/pods or in person from Griffin Books on Windsor Road, or you can call 029 2071 2260. Brian Gardner is also the PODS ticket secretary, so you may get to speak to a real life evacuee if you book by telephone.

Evacuee Brian Gardener met with members of the dramatic society ahead of their performance of Goodnight Mister Tom.

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR BRO MORGANNWG (LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS LLANFLEIDDAN Rhif 50) (CAU DROS DRO) 2020

Mae Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, wrth arfer ei bwerau dan Adran 14 Deddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill yn cynnig, mewn dim llai na 7 diwrnod o ddyddiad yr Hysbysiad hwn, wneud Gorchymyn a fydd yn gwneud yr hyn a ddisgrifir yn yr atodlenni isod: -

ATODLEN 1

Ni chaiff unrhyw un gerdded yn y lleoliadau a nodir yn Atodlen 2 isod.

ATODLEN 2

Lleoliad: Bydd y llwybr troed (Hawliau Tramwy Cyhoeddus) a elwir Llanfleiddan Rhif 50 ar gau o'r pwynt wrth gyf grid 297992, 174593 i'r dwyrain i gyf grid 8274, 174752 am 330 metr

Llwybr: Yn ystod y cyfnod hwn bydd gwyriad trwy'r A48 a'r rhan o'r llwybr troed

Amgen: sydd dal ar agor ar gael.

Rheswm: Atal perygl i'r cyhoedd o ganlyniad i waith adeiladu.

Ffordd Arall: Bydd gwyriadau lleol ag arwyddion ar waith.

Hyd: O 00.01 Dydd Iau 12 Mawrth 2020 am gyfnod hyd at chwe mis

Dyddiedig 5 Mawrth 2020
Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Gweladwy a Thai
Cyngor Bro Morgannwg, Yr Alpau, Gwenfô. CF5 6AA.

THE VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL (LLANBLETHIAN PUBLIC FOOTPATH No 50) (TEMPORARY CLOSURE) ORDER 2020

The Vale of Glamorgan Council in exercise of its powers under Section 14 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers intends in not less than seven days from the date of this Notice to make an Order the general effect of which is as described in the schedules below: -

SCHEDULE 1

No person shall proceed on foot in the location specified in Schedule 2 below.

SCHEDULE 2

Location: Footpath (Public Rights of Way) known as Llanblethian Number 50 closed from the point at grid ref 297992,174593 in an easterly direction to grid reference 298274,174752 for a distance of 330 metres

Alt. Route: During this closure a diversion via the A48 and the remaining open section of footpath will be available.

Reason: To prevent danger to the Public as a result of construction works being carried out.

Duration: From 00.01 on Thursday 12th March 2020 for a maximum period of six months

Dated this 5th day of March 2020
Director of Environment & Housing
Vale of Glamorgaouncil, The Alps, Wenvoe. CF5 6AA.

Family made homeless after severe storm battered their home

By Sam Hall
Reporter
sam.hall@glamorgan-gem co.uk

A MOTHER and daughter have been made homeless after a severe storm caused nearly £20,000 worth of damage to their home in Barry.

Extremely strong winds blew the roof off of Ceri Baker's property in Pendine Close recently – leaving it completely uninhabitable.

Ms Baker, aged 57 and her 13-year-old daughter Jessica Sheppard have been forced to split up and start sofa surfing with family after Storm Dennis wreaked havoc last month.

As well as taking the roof off, the storm caused ceilings and walls to crumble, large cracks to appear and left the property water-logged.

Ms Baker, whose son Craig killed himself last year, revealed she doesn't know what's going to happen now as she did not have home insurance – and now faces a £17,000 repair bill.

She explained that she chose to take out life insurance instead of home cover because her husband David died in 2006 when she was just six-months pregnant with Jessica.

She told the Glamorgan GEM: "I do not know where I stand as I am not insured.

"It was either life insurance or house insurance and I chose life insurance because Jess' dad died when he was young.

"Living in the middle with two houses either side, I just didn't think anything like this would ever happen.

"I haven't got a clue what is going to happen now. It's all a bit up in the air."

Ms Baker, who has moved into her sister's place in Barry, said the hardest part of the "nightmare" ordeal was being separated from her daughter Jessica, who is living with her cousin on the other side of town.

She said: "It is really, really hard. Me and my daughter have been separated.

"It has been very hard on Jessica.

"My dad is in hospital at the moment, this is the last thing I need right now. I have been split up from my daughter and that is the worst bit."

And now Ms Baker's niece Natalie Meredith has launched an online fundraising appeal to help get her auntie back on her feet,

Ms Meredith said: "Storm Dennis caused the roof of my aunty's home to completely come off, leaving them unable to go back home.

"Since then the house has deteriorated and the ceilings have fallen down and flooded inside the house.

"Ceri is on benefits and is unable to fix the roof as she has no funds and no-one who can help so I am asking people to donate what they can to help Ceri and Jessica reunite and have their home back as they are sofa surfing through family." Visit www.gofundme.com/f/storm-dennis-makes-women-and-child-sofa-surfing to donate.

Pictured above is 13-year-old Jessica Sheppard, left, and her mum Ceri Baker.

Pictured left and right is just some of the damage Storm Dennis caused at Ceri's home in Barry recently.

Hand sanitiser runs out

STORES across Wales have run out of hygiene products such as hand sanitiser gel since the Coronavirus outbreak.

Shoppers in the Vale of Glamorgan and Bridgend areas have been unable to find the products, including from major supermarkets such as Waitrose in Cowbridge, Sarn's Sainsbury's supermarket near McArthur Glen and the big branches of Tesco.

Pharmacy group Well, which has shops across the UK, said it is doing its best to monitor stock but that it is not limiting the products or profiteering from the shortage.

A Well spokesman said: "We, like other pharmacies and retailers, are seeing a surge in demand for sanitising products. We are currently not limiting stocks to our customers and are doing our best to maintain stock levels best we can. This may result in stock being temporarily unavailable whilst it is replenished from our distribution centre. We certainly have no intention of profiteering over the current situation by increasing prices.

"We will continue to monitor the supply and demand of these products carefully as we endeavour to maintain availability of them"

Some local chemists are understood to be selling anti-bacterial wipe to customers, in some cases

shoppers are buying two wipes for 25p – a tenth of the price of an average £5 bottle.

Superdrug, Holland and Barrett and Boots have also all sold out of the product along with Sheppards chemists, NHS chemists and Lloyds pharmacy branches.

Some hand sanitisers are still available online limited stock left on the Superdrug website, Amazon and on the Holland and Barrett website.

Hand sanitiser is not alone as there has also been a surge in the sale of faces masks across the UK as well as hand wash.

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Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Benefits for the over 50s

THE Vale of Glamorgan Council and the County's 50+ Strategy Forum have launched a joint initiative aimed at raising awareness of the financial entitlements available to older persons.

Those over 50 may be eligible for a range of discounts and financial privileges, though many are unaware of this fact meaning such entitlements often go unclaimed. Together, the council and Forum are looking to publicise the financial advantages available to this group, examples of which include:

- Pension credits and boosts.
- Council Tax reduction.
- Financial support for carers.
- Energy saving grants.
- Free bus travel.
- Discounts when eating out, visiting the cinema or certain historic sites.

Cllr Ben Gray said: "There are a number of financial entitlements available to older persons, depending on their circumstances, to help with the cost of living, but sadly many residents simply do not realise they qualify for these advantages.

"We offer a Council Tax reduction in certain instances; it may also be possible to boost your pension or receive an extra allowance if a carer. Many other services are also available for free or at a discounted rate to those over 50.

"It's important we make people aware of exactly what they're entitled to so no-one misses out. That's why I'm delighted to launch this initiative in partnership with the 50+ forum."

Lynda Wallis of the Vale 50+ Strategy Forum said: "There are millions of pounds of unclaimed money that older people are entitled to, yet many do not realise that they are able to claim it. A weekly income on top of old age pension can make all the difference to the life of an older person."

Company celebrates wins

TAYLOR Wimpey south Wales has announced that its site manager, Chris Jones, at the Clare Garden Village development in Cowbridge has won Best Site Agent/Professional of the Year at the Local Authority Building Control (LABC) Excellence Awards 2020.

Clare Garden Village also won the award for Best Large Housing Development in the south Wales region. The Building Excellence Award Scheme, organised by the Vale of Glamorgan Council building control team, demonstrates the council's recognition of high standards in building work across the Vale.

Chris Jones said: "I am honoured to have won Best Site Agent/Professional of the Year: the award is not just a huge achievement for myself, but for the whole construction team at Clare Garden Village. The role of being a site manager can often be challenging but it also has so many rewarding factors that makes the job worthwhile. The team and I are immensely proud of the homes built at Clare Garden Village and we're delighted to have been recognised for our hard work."

Meet your Assembly Member

Assembly Member Jane Hutt talks St David's Day and severe weather in her monthly column for the Gem

THE sun came out on St David's Day as crowds gathered in Central Park for a St David's Day Festival thanks to the Holton Road Traders.

They had planned for two days of stalls, entertainment and refreshments in the Park by the Library and King Square but Storm Jorge put paid to that with the heavy overnight storms causing widespread flooding and disruption, road closures and further bad weather warnings but the event went ahead on March 1 and was a great success.

In Central Park on St David's Day we joined St Helen's Primary School to sing the Welsh National Anthem.

There was also stalls, entertainment and refreshments. The children were looking forward to more St David's Day events at school on Monday. We wore our daffodils and thought of the 'little things' or 'pethau bach' we could do as St David encouraged us.

That message was echoed throughout the day in concerts and services including the Fairtrade service at Hope Methodist Church in Cadoxton where we heard from Jenipher Wattaker, a Ugandan coffee grower but also a mother and grandmother who spoke of the importance of Fair Trade to the women she is leading in the Mt Elgon region of Uganda and the impact of climate change in her country causing landslides, destroying life and land. So I am encouraging the Welsh Government to find ways we can help her with the export of her coffee to Wales.

The sun came out on March 1 following Storm Jorge which caused more flooding following Storms Dennis and Ciara the previous week, which devastated parts of Wales. Rising water flooded roads as I was out visiting and contacting communities in the Vale where there was risk of flooding. My visit to businesses on Monday revealed the extent of damage in one area that has experienced previous events.

What was very clear from my visits was the strength of community support from friends, relatives and neighbours, often unknown to each other, who came out to volunteer with the 'clear up' over the weekend so that businesses could continue to serve their customers on Monday.

This was reflected in my visit to Llanhileth Miners Institute on Friday in my ministerial capacity where over 200 homes were flooded and the local Miners Institute worked flat out to support those made homeless providing three meals a day with volunteers and donations pouring in to help. Many had already received £500 from the Welsh Government as part of the £10m Emergency Relief Scheme made available working in partnership with local authorities to administer the scheme and provide advice and support.

The Minister for Environment made a Statement last week on the impact of the storms reporting that at the peak of Storm Dennis there were 61 flood alerts, 89 flood warnings and two severe river warnings in force. At its peak 900 tonnes of water per second were flowing down the River Taff.

The First Minister Mark Drakeford chaired an emergency Summit on February 19 announcing support for businesses and high streets. Business Wales is ready to support those businesses that have been affected and they can be contacted on their helpline 0300 060 3000 or https://businesswales.gov.wales/news-and-blogs/news/has-your-business-been-affected-flooding.

The Ministers stated that emergency funding for repairs to flood infrastructure after Storm Ciara and Storm Dennis including urgent works to defences and culverts to be 100% funded by Welsh Government.

Over £350million has been invested in flood defences since 2016 and I am pleased that has included funding for the Vale of Glamorgan to build the new culvert at Boverton with money also allocated for Llanmaes.

Flood prevention works carried out in Barry and previously in Cowbridge were effective against these storms.

A year ago Welsh Government published A Low Carbon Wales which set out our first statutory climate change mitigation plan with 100 policies and proposals and we declared a Climate Emergency in April to help tackle one of the greatest challenges facing current and future generations. Wider catchment areas, adaptive measures to respond to climate change and a new National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion will be published later this year which sets out how we can manage risk over the coming decades.

St David's Day celebrations in Cowbridge with Merched y Wawr

TO celebrate St David's Day Merched y Wawr in Cowbridge held their annual coffee morning at Maes Melyn, Westgate.

Despite the terrible weather, about 70 people turned up to be greeted by the delicious smell of freshly baked Welsh cakes.

Many learners came to join us and the proceeds of the morning were shared between the local Memory Jar Cafe for dementia, and Parkinson's charity in memory of one of our members.

I ddathlu Dydd Gwyl Dewi cynhaliodd Merched y Wawr, Y Bontfaen eu bore coff blynyddol yn Maes Melyn Westgate.

Er y tywydd difrifol death tua 70 o bobl i ddathlu a chael eu cyfarch gan arogl hyfryd pice bach yn cael eu coginio'n ffres.

Daeth llawer o ddysgwyr I ymuno gyda ni a rhannwyd elw y bore rhwng Caffi Memory Jar lleol a Chronfa Parkinson er cof am un o'n haelodau.

More chaos as Wales battered by Storm Jorge

The main photo is the Dipping Bridge in Bridgend, and bottom right is the A48 towards the Broadlands roundabout – both by Adam Watkin, a CAA approved and commercially insured drone pilot. Inset is Pontyclun Train Station carpark by David Shewring

By Ariane Hill
Reporter
ariane@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

THERE was more damage and delays over the weekend as Wales faced its third storm in four weeks.

Storm Jorge, pronounced 'hor-hay', hit the UK on Friday bringing heavy rain and strong winds which wreaked havoc in the Vale of Glamorgan, Bridgend, and Ogmore Vale

By 1pm on Friday, February 28, the roads from Pontyclun to Cowbridge were almost impassable with drivers crawling 10 to 20 miles per hour due to flooding on Cowbridge Road.

Residents in Aberthin were in the streets trying to clear the drains of silt as water flowed from the fields and caused the village, around The Hare and Hounds Pub, to flood just off the A4222 and around the bend leading to Cowbridge High School.

The road under the M4 bridge to the motorway, heading through Ruthin and past St Mary's Golf Club, was closed by police as water was so deep on Friday that despite drivers attempting the area with caution, their vehicles were still breaking down.

There were a few accidents on the M4 over the weekend as road conditions were poor with surface water and spray.

Trains were cancelled and delayed as the lines were flooded, such as at Llanharan and Pontyclun.

Meanwhile in areas like Barry and Ogmore Vale, businesses and homes were once again flooded, or damaged by the wind and the rain.

The St Athan Community Centre was protected with sandbags, with its surrounding area flooded.

Bryncethin was also hit by flood waters as the roundabout next to the Mason's Arms was only passable with care, and near The Royal Oak was allegedly impassable on Friday afternoon. Cowbridge High Street also suffered some flooding over the weekend, with water running down the road and from the drains – sandbags were dotted around the market town over the weekend to protect buildings.

The roads between Pontyclun and Llanharan, and around Talbot Green – including by Matalan Roundabout and the roundabout near the old L'Oriel Factory – were also flooded and hard to get through on Friday.

Over the weekend motorists reported problems with the roads in the Hensol area which also lead from the Vale of Glamorgan to the M4 in Llantrisant.

A major incident was declared by South Wales Police over the weekend along with the Met Office's yellow weather warning, the least serious, for wind and rain lasting from Friday until Saturday evening.

Chris Elmore, the MP for Ogmore Vale helped with the clear up from Storm Jorge over the weekend.

A spokesman from Mr Elmore's office said: "Chris and his constituency team spent a lot of Friday coordinating the delivery of sandbags and additional support to local homes and businesses, in conjunction with Huw Irranca-Davies and the local authority.

"Thankfully it doesn't appear that long-term damage has been too bad in most places, but Chris will be closely monitoring the situation in the days/weeks ahead."

Storm Jorge battered Wales only two weeks after Storm Dennis –which came with an amber and a yellow weather warning – which caused destruction around the UK. Only a week earlier the UK had also suffered Storm Ciarra – which carried a yellow weather warning.

Via Pendoylan to the M4: by Peterson super Ely Village on Facebook

Company's 'troubling' financial state raises questions over government's judgement

By Sam Hall
Reporter
sam.hall@glamorgan-gem co.uk

A LUXURY car maker's "troubling" money situation has prompted a prominent AM to call for a thorough investments inquiry.

Questions have been raised over the Welsh Government's investment strategy as Aston Martin Lagonda revealed widening losses and slipping sales.

The high-end car maker was enticed to St Athan in the Vale by the Labour-led government with nearly £20m worth of taxpayer grants in a bid to boost the area's economy.

However, a financial report released this week shows the struggling company's pre-tax losses grew by 53% last year to £104.2million.

Aston Martin – known for making James Bond's cars of choice – also cautioned that the coronavirus outbreak could hit demand and supply in China, its fastest-growing market, which accounts for 9% of total wholesales.

The business also slipped to an operating loss of £36.7m compared to an operating profit of £72.8m in 2018.

Revenue and sales both fell by 9% with Aston Martin selling 5,862 vehicles, which brought in £997.3m.

But the company's debt rose by 53% to £876.2m last year.

Shares were down by 12% in London only hours after the financial report was released last Thursday.

The stock has fallen more than 70% since Aston Martin went public on October 2018 and received public funding from the Welsh Government.

It has been announced that Mark Wilson, the company's chief financial officer, will be stepping down from his role by the end of next month.

South Wales Central AM, Andrew RT Davies, wrote to the National Assembly's public accounts committee chairman Nick Ramsay asking his committee to investigate the Welsh Government's investment.

He explained: "This is a very troubling set of finances and behind the excitement of what seems a good brand and project, it once again poses serious questions for the Labour Welsh Government's judgement and investment strategy.

"Millions and millions of pounds of Welsh taxpayers' cash has been thrown at Aston Martin, yet it appears to have been in significant financial difficulty for quite some time, which is very concerning."

He said: "There is always an element of risk when investing in business, but where taxpayers' money is concerned the public has a right to question whether value for money is achieved and it's now paramount the Welsh Government does all it can to ensure both taxpayers' cash and jobs are protected."

Mr Davies added: "Labour's Welsh Government has a chequered past with such investments and their actions during this process must be fully investigated and taxpayers will expect robust evidence that due diligence was followed.

"As such, I have therefore written to the chairman of the Assembly's Public Accounts Committee, Nick Ramsay, to ask whether his committee would be inclined to initiate an inquiry into the investment and partnership between Welsh Government and Aston Martin."

A spokesperson for the Welsh Government said: "Aston Martin's move to St Athan was a vote of confidence in the skills on the Welsh workforce and in Wales itself.

"The company is planning to double the size of its St Athan workforce to more than 600 by April and we look forward to seeing the first of the new DBX models rolling off the production line later this year."

The Gem approached Aston Martin for a comment, but none was forthcoming at the time of going to press.

News of the company's financial state comes just days after Prince Charles visited the St Athan factory, pictured above.

INSET: Assembly member Andrew RT Davies.

Don't miss your Gem

Readers of the Glamorgan Gem will be able to pick up copies of the newspaper from Tesco in Cowbridge after the town's Co-op store closes later this month.

Doors to the Co-Op are set to close for good on March 7 after serving customers in the town for five years.

Shoppers who used to grab their copies of the Gem in the Co-op can visit Tesco, on the opposite side of the road, to get their weekly editions.

Anyone with queries can call the Glamorgan GEM offices on 01446 774484.

Further road disruption in Dinas Powys

THERE have been calls for contractors working to replace gas mains in Dinas Powys ensure that an adequate workforce is available.

This follows news that Wales and the West Utilities intend to replace cast iron pipes along Mill Road and Penyturnpike.

Plaid Cymru community councillors have written to the company to seek assurances that the disruption is kept to a minimum.

Chris Franks, a Plaid Community councillor, said: "We all know that this work is essential. However, the impact of excavations along one of the main routes into Cardiff from Barry could be horrendous.

"Mill Road will be closed in the Cardiff direction and traffic diverted. However, for Penyturnpike, there really is no alternative. The contractor must have a large enough work force to complete the work in the minimum of time – traffic signals will be in operation."

Plaid Community councillor Richard Grigg added: "In addition, Highwalls Avenue and Cefn Mount will be excavated. We have received assurances that access will be kept to properties, although there is bound to be inconvenience for residents. This is a large undertaking and residents will not want to see the roads dug up and then left with no actual work being undertaken.

"We have also asked the county council to fully engage with the contractors and insist that inconvenience is minimised."

CF

Pesticide disposal scheme re-launched

A FREE and confidential pesticide disposal scheme has been relaunched for farmers, growers and land managers to help protect the quality of drinking water.

Welsh Water has re-started the confidential PestSmart project, which is across all of Wales, for agricultural workers which aims to safeguard drinking water quality before it reaches treatment works.

The project will allow agricultural workers to dispose of any unwanted pesticides and herbicide safely and confidentially for free.

PestSmart also encourages people across Wales to consider "smarter" ways of weed, pest and disease control that do not impact on people, water or wildlife.

Welsh Water relaunches free and confidential pesticide disposal scheme to protect drinking water quality

Free pesticide disposal scheme for farmers, growers and land managers across Wales

Confidential scheme by Welsh Water safeguards drinking water quality before water reaches treatment works

Registration open until 31st March 2020 with participation on first come, first served basis

Welsh Water has opened a registration window for farmers, growers and land managers in Wales to dispose of any unwanted pesticides and herbicides as part of their free and confidential PestSmart project.

PestSmart encourages people across Wales to consider 'smarter' ways of weed, pest and disease control that do not impact on people, water or wildlife.

Ian Christie, the managing director of water services at Welsh Water, said: "Our routine raw water monitoring programme has detected increasing traces of pesticides in areas we have never seen them before.

"While these levels are too low to pose a risk to those drinking the water, they are enough to risk breaching rigorous drinking water standards so we want to work with farmers, growers and land managers to take action to address this issue together.

"Even the most organised of land managers can find themselves with an out of date or now unlicensed product which can be difficult or expensive to dispose of correctly.

"To help them, we are launching a free 'no questions asked' disposal scheme to safely take away any unwanted pesticides and herbicides.

"We know that pesticides form an essential and everyday role in the agricultural community. However, if stored, used or disposed of incorrectly, they can have a devastating impact on people, water and wildlife.

"By providing this free and confidential scheme across Wales, we want to work with land managers to reduce the risk of pollution and safeguard raw water quality before it reaches our water treatment works."

Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs, Lesley Griffiths, said: "This is a great initiative by Dŵr Cymru and I encourage all farmers, growers and land managers to register for the free pesticide disposal scheme. Minimising the impact of pesticides on the environment is an essential part of responding to the ecological crisis, protecting Wales' watercourses for future generations. "

PestSmart has received funding through the Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014-2020, which is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the Welsh Government.

The scheme is available throughout Wales, not just Welsh Water's operating area.

Registration for the confidential scheme is open until Tuesday, March 31 with participation on a first come, first served basis.

To register, visit www.dwrcymru.com/disposalscheme or call 01443 452716 by no later than 5pm on Tuesday, March 31.

For more information about the process, visit the Welsh Water website.

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Campaign group 'shocked' by shortage of doctors at threatened A&E unit

ByAnthony Lewis
Local Democracy Reporter
editorial@glamorgan-gem co.uk

CAMPAIGNERS against the potential closure of the Royal Glamorgan Hospital's A&E have called on the health minister to help the health board recruit the staff needed to make it safe.

The group 'Save Royal Glamorgan A&E' have appealed to the health minister Vaughan Gething to intervene to help Cwm Taf Morgannwg Health Board find the A&E consultants that could keep the 24-hour accident and emergency department open..

The health board says that they do not have enough A&E consultants at the moment to deliver a safe service at the Llantrisant hospital, which is why they're considering these changes.

Dr Nick Lyons, the medical director at Cwm Taf Morgannwg, told a packed health board meeting in Tylorstown last week that they are short of 17 consultants and 20 middle grade doctors.

A huge campaign against the possible closure of the service was launched when the proposals were made clear, with hundreds gathering at The Senedd alongside local representatives last month to call for it to be saved.

The options being considered are to reduce the hours of the A&E department or close it and turn it into a minor injuries unit.

Len Arthur has written to Vaughan Gething on behalf of the group saying it's "increasingly clear" to them that the board needs support from him and that they are "shocked" by the level of recruitment that is needed.

The letter says: "It is increasingly clear to us that the board needs support from you, as the Minister, in order to be able to achieve the aim of keeping a permanent 24-hour consultant-led emergency department at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital.

"This is the aim that was overwhelmingly supported by a vote in the Senedd on February 12, 2020, and remains an aim of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board.

"We are shocked at the extent of the recruitment that is required urgently at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital in order to continue to offer the current 24 hours consultant led service.

"At a minimum, 17 emergency consultants together with 20 middle grade doctors are required."

The letter also says that it was clear at the meeting that certainty as to the long term future of the emergency department would immensely help in the needed recruitment process.

"It is our view, and one that is shared by the Cwm Taf Morgannwg University Health Board, that the existence and application of that part of the South Wales Programme to downgrade the Royal Glamorgan emergency department has led to the current dangerous situation and continues to blight the needed recruitment.

"We believe that, as the minister, it is now time for you to help Cwm Taf Morgannwg to recruit the necessary professional staff to safely sustain the current 24 hour consultant led service at the Royal Glamorgan Hospital.

"We believe that, following the Senedd vote and the clear recruitment need of the Cwm Taf Morgannwg, if you announce support for the continuation of this current service it will help provide certainty for the future of the emergency department, and give the Cwm Taf Morgannwg the needed support to finally put this part of the South Wales Programme behind them and offer a certain employment future for professional staff recruitment.

"It would also undoubtedly help that, as the minister, you supported the Cwm Taf Morgannwg recruitment process directly as the Welsh Government."

It adds that the group is still available to meet with the minister at any time to further explain why they think this step is urgently needed.

Dr Lyons said at the health board meeting on February 27 that they are "leaving absolutely no stone unturned" in ensuring the safety and sustainability of all their A&Es but the Royal Glamorgan especially.

He said: "We are revisiting the South Wales Programme recommendations to see whether they remain valid or not.

"It is not a done deal that the South Wales Programme will go ahead."

"The reality is with the current dependency on locum doctors, the risk to safety is unacceptably high."

Dr Lyons said there have been deaths at the hospital which have been attributed by the coroner to the high dependency on agency staff.

He said they want to have a "safe service provided as locally as possible."

He told the meeting that they had recruited two consultants in January but another two are due to retire later this year.

A Welsh Government spokeswoman said: "We expect the health board to work with its partners to consider options and agree a sustainable model of care for the future."

Workers suffering from suspected coronavirus to get statutory sick pay from day one

STATUTORY sick pay will be available to workers staying at home with possible coronavirus infections from the first day of illness, Boris Johnson has announced.

Under emergency legislation to halt the spread of Covid-19, the Prime Minister said payments will be moved forward from the fourth day of sickness under current rules.

The Government had been under pressure to introduce measures to compensate employees who are following health advice in not turning up for work.

Speaking at PMQs on Wednesday, Mr Johnson said individuals who self-isolate are "helping to protect all of us by slowing the spread of the virus".

"If they stay at home and if we ask people to self isolate they may lose out financially," he told the Commons.

"So I can today announce that the Health Secretary will bring forward, as part of our emergency coronavirus legislation, measures to allow the payment of statutory sick pay from the very first day you are sick instead of four days under the current rules and I think that's the right way forward.

"Nobody should be penalised for doing the right thing."

Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn welcomed the announcement but pressed the Prime Minister on whether it would apply to workers not entitled to statutory sick pay so they would not have to make the "terrible choice between health and hardship".

Mr Johnson said he was "very much aware" of issues faced by the self-employed and those on zero-hours contracts, adding that "some of them will be entitled to statutory sick pay, a great many".

He said ministers were "urgently looking" at the application process for social security payments, when asked by Mr Corbyn if there would be protection for claimants who faced sanctions for missing appointments.

Employers had only been obliged to give statutory sick pay of £94.25 per week if workers had been ill for four days in a row, including days off.

The Resolution Foundation think tank said the move "goes some way towards reassuring workers" who must self-isolate but urged the Government to go further.

But research director Laura Gardiner said the support would not help an estimated five million self-employed workers and around two million employees who did not earn the £118-a-week to qualify for payments.

"The Government should now extend coverage of statutory sick pay further to ensure that no worker loses all of their income from doing the right thing if they're affected by the coronavirus, and start a broader review to ensure we have an adequate sick pay system," she added.

"It shouldn't take a pandemic to prompt this."

Businesses welcomed the "clarity" about employers' responsibilities.

Confederation of British Industry deputy director-general Josh Hardie said: "Employers have a big role to play in ensuring that self-isolation is put into practice fairly. Making statutory sick pay available from day one is an important first step."

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Special service to mark 70 years since air disaster

The memorial where a minute's silence and prayers will be held later this month.

A SPECIAL service to mark the 70th anniversary of the Llandow air disaster, which claimed 80 lives, is set to take place later this month.

St Michael and All Angels Church in Llanmihangel will be holding a service from 9.30am until 10.30am on March 15.

After the church service, a minute's silence and prayers will take place at the memorial stone in Sigingstone before refreshments at the village hall.

Anyone is welcome to attend.

The Llandow air disaster, which happened on March 12, 1950, was the world's biggest air disaster at the time with 80 fatalities.

An Avro 689 Tudor V aircraft, which had been privately chartered for a trip to Belfast to watch Wales Vs Ireland in the Five Nations Championship, left Dublin and headed for Llandow aerodrome.

The plane plummeted towards the ground as it came to land at Llandow, with the right wingtip hitting the ground first, followed in turn by the plane's nose and left wing, which separated from the fuselage when it made contact.

The plane turned clockwise and finally came to a rest near a field beside Park Farm close to Sigingstone.

Two passengers who were sitting in additional seats bolted in at the back of the tail section walked away unscathed with a third man, knocked unconscious in the toilet at the time of the crash, also surviving.

'Incredible' AM calls it a day after 21 years

LONG-SERVING Assembly Member David Melding has announced he will not fight to keep his seat in the upcoming Welsh Parliamentary elections.

Mr Melding, who has represented South Wales Central for 21 years, revealed he was stepping down to write on political and constitutional matters,

He explained: "At the next Senedd election I would have served for 22 years and I have decided that now is the time to announce that I will not stand for re-election.

"But there will be a sequel – I intend to become a creative and mischievous citizen-politician."

He said: "It has been a wonderful and remarkable privilege to serve since the inaugural assembly.

"This service would have been impossible without the commitment of exceptional staff.

"Above all I want to thank the electorate of South Wales Central and assure them of my continued efforts until I leave the Senedd."

Mr Melding added: "Quite properly being an elected politician is no ordinary job.

"It involved a considerable time commitment and as a public figure there is no 'time off' as such.

"I will now have more time once I step down to write on political and constitutional matters, and to develop the think tank Gorwel.

"And of course I look forward to supporting the Welsh Conservative Party under the ambitious leadership of Paul Davies in the 2021 elections."

Outgoing AM David Melding.

Paul Davies, leader of the Welsh Conservative Assembly group, said: "It is difficult to overstate the incredible contribution David has made to the political landscape of recent years in Wales, and to the success of devolution – and of the Welsh Conservatives in the Assembly, including writing manifestos for the 2003, 2007 and 2011 elections.

"In his 21 years – from the very first term – as an Assembly Member, he has brought an academic's insight, tact, reasoned argument, and wit to life and work in the Senedd, and beyond.

"David's proposals on the Wales' housing crisis and to end rough sleeping in Wales will be at the forefront of the Welsh Conservative manifesto for 2021; this is testament to his unwavering belief in standing up for all in our society.

"He is irreplaceable, and – I say this without fear of contradiction – one of the champions of Welsh democracy and devolution.

"I am sure that Members across all parties will join me in thanking him for his work.

"He will be missed, and although I am sad not to have David on my team following the 2021 election, I am delighted that David will be further developing the Gorwel think-tank.

"He will continue to inspire students and those involved in politics to think more widely about the impact of policies, and his influence and legacy will be felt in the years to come."

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Transport for Wales pledges support to Armed Forces

TRANSPORT for Wales has pledged to support the Armed Forces Community by signing a commitment to honour the Armed Forces Covenant.

The agreement acknowledges and understands that those who serve and who have served in the armed forces, and their families, should be treated with fairness and respect in the communities, economy and society when they serve with their lives.

As part of the pledge, TfW will ensure that no member of the Armed Forces will face any disadvantage during recruitment and in some circumstances special treatment may be appropriate, especially for the injured or bereaved. TfW are keen to promote that they are a fully inclusive organisation and their commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant is simply another way of demonstrating this.

James Price, Transport for Wales CEO said: "We are an open and transparent organisation, delivering a £5 billion investment programme to transform transport in Wales. We welcome applicants from the armed forces who will bring a wealth of vocational skills and experience."

Marie Daly, engagement director added: "We look forward to working with the Career Transition Partnership (CPT) and others to support the employment of veterans and service spouses/partners with Transport for Wales Rail Services, and promoting the employment of defence personnel across the wider railway industry."

Karl Gilmore, rail programme director said: "As an ex-serving veteran I am proud to support TfW's pledge. There is an opportunity to draw upon a pool of highly trained, talented and motivated individuals from the Armed Forces community, to help TfW transform transport across Wales."

Students learn how to cut suicide risk as well as hair

BARBERING students at Cardiff and Vale College have been given mental health training in order to help prevent suicide within their client base.

Lions Barber Collective founder Tom Chapman visited the College's Urbasba salon to show the learners how they can spot and advise male clients who are struggling with their mental health. The BarberTalk initiative aims to enable barbers to recognise the signs, ask about wellbeing, listen and help to act as a bridge between the communities they serve and the resources that are available in a safe and non-judgemental space.

Tom Chapman said: "It's been incredible teaming up with Public Health Wales and Cardiff and Vale College to deliver our BarberTalk training, enabling barbering students to recognise the signs of mental ill health, ask the correct questions, listen with empathy and without judgement and finally help give them the knowledge of the resources so they can help their clients find the help they need.

"All the students were engaged and had a great understanding already, showing empathy and tact. Now they have completed BarberTalk, they will be prepared for a moment of crisis and be able to provide a safe environment for those in their chairs, enabling the Lions Barber Collective to reach even more people."

Cardiff and Vale College Deputy Principal Sharon James said: "The work done by Tom and his colleagues is hugely important – many men who are suffering from mental ill health often feel like they have no-one to turn to, but having a barber who can spot the signs and offer advice and support could make all the difference.

"Our barbering students will be going out into the community and this training will help them to make a valuable contribution to its wellbeing."

The event was hosted by Cardiff and Vale College, working in partnership with sponsors Public Health Wales and the Cardiff and Vale University Health Board.

Dr Annie Procter, Clinical Board Director for Mental Health Services at Cardiff and Vale UHB said: "I'm acutely aware of the impact that losing a loved one to suicide has on people, both as a doctor, a mother, a friend and a partner. We know that many people who are desperate enough to take their own lives never come anywhere near mental health services to seek help and support, so this partnership is absolutely brilliant."

What's on in your area?

Vale Backgammon Club

WE meet every Thursday at Cowbridge Library 1pm–3pm and learners are very welcome.

Play for 10p stakes and winnings go to local charity, budget for £1 a session. Easy to learn so drop in and give it a try!

Repair Cafe

REPAIR Cafe Wales will be at Bethel Church Hall in Llantwit Major again on Saturday, March 14 from 10am to noon.

Volunteers will be happy to take a look inside your non-functioning household goods, repairing your fabrics, ornaments and toys and also providing recommendations for items we can't fix.

We'd also like to encourage you to bring those bicycles out from wherever they've been over the winter, to take advantage of our free bicycle MOT or safety check.

Romilly Bowling Club meet

A pre-season meeting will take place on Saturday, March 21 at 10am at Romilly Bowling Club, Romilly Park Road, Barry. Members and new players are welcome to attend the meeting.

Ystradowen cinema

YSTRADOWEN community cinema will screen Official Secrets, a true-life political drama about the build up to the Iraq WarThe screening takes place at the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday, March 11. Tickets are available from Tudor Garage, Ystradowen.

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AM's disappointment as airport expansion scheme fails to take off

A COSTLY scheme to build another runway at Heathrow Airport failed to take off this week with a prominent AM branding the hold up as "very disappointing."

Judges in the Court of Appeal threw the airport's third runway venture up in the air amid environmental concerns.

The court declared that the expansion scheme was unlawful as it did not take climate commitments into account.

South Wales AM Andrew RT Davies said after the court's decision was revealed: "This is a very disappointing decision from the Court of Appeal and the ruling could have wide-spread impact on a range of UK policy, potentially including the Welsh Government's continued ownership and support for Cardiff Airport in Rhoose."

Mr Davies, who is also shadow environment minister, added: "Aviation won't stop or reduce due to this decision, indeed, this business will simply go elsewhere, which will be to the detriment of UK PLC.

"We need an upfront and frank conversation about the potential economic impact of climate change targets, which in the long-term have to be both realistic and attainable, and not to the detriment of hardworking people."

Judges at the Court of Appeal said that a third runway could get the go-ahead in the future as long as it complies with the UK's climate policy.

Transport Secretary Grant Schapps said that the government would not appeal against the recent ruling.

However Heathrow Airport said it would challenge the court's decision at the Supreme Court.

The expansion scheme, which would've seen some 700 extra planes arrive at the airport per day, was expected to cost around £14bn.

Shadow Chancellor John McDonnell joined campaigners outside the Royal Courts of Justice in London where the Court of Appeal ruling took place on the Heathrow expansion row

Campaigners cheer outside the Royal Courts of Justice in London after they won a Court of Appeal challenge against controversial plans for a third runway at Heathrow.
(Both photos credited to Stefan Rousseau/PA Wire)

What's on, and where?

Penarth Aviation Society

ON March 6, the Penarth Aviation Society will meet in the Penarth Conservative Club at 8pm.

The speaker will be member David Ephraim, on the subject of Aeronautical Oddities. David will be looking at some of the weird and wonderful flying machines that have graced our skies (or not as the case may be!).

Why not join the Society? We meet on the first Friday of the month at the Penarth Conservative Club. Visitors and potential members are welcome to attend a meeting, for a small donation. Further information at www.penarthaviationsociety.co.uk, and from secretary, Martin Parry on 02921 254776.

Extinction Rebellion

A GENERAL meeting takes place at Barry Island Community Centre on Monday, March 9 from 7pm-9pm; all welcome.

For more information, please email xrvog@protonmail.com, or visit XR Vale of Glamorgan Facebook page.

Age Connects

AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale helps thousands of local people: come along to our attractive and cheerful drop-in café at 38 Holton Road, Barry, where volunteers are on hand to answer questions, or direct you to the relevant organisation.

A monthly coffee and chat stroke club is held on the first Thursday from 10am to 12pm, and an epilepsy support group on the fourth Thursday from 10.30am to 12pm.

Regular weekly activities such as Keep Fit, Knit and Natter, quizzes, computer training, health checks and Bingo make the café a place to socialise, make new friends and enjoy light meals at competitive prices. The café opens 9.30am to 12pm Monday to Friday and Tuesday 9.30am to 1pm. The café is dementia friendly, and all volunteers are trained.

A weekly nail cutting service is provided on Monday afternoons and at Highlight Park Medical Centre Thursdays, cost £14.

Call 02922 331113 to make a appointment, or 01446 732385 for any further information on any of the services the Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop provides.

Music recitals

THE 250th anniversary of Ludwig van Beethoven's birth takes place this year and as part of the celebrations, All Saints' Church, Victoria Square, Penarth is hosting a series of five hour-long lunchtime recitals.

Maia Broido and Robin Green will perform the complete cycle of Beethoven's violin sonatas at these recitals, the first of which will be held at All Saints' Church, Victoria Square on Tuesday, March 10 starting at 1pm. Entry is free, but donations are welcomed.

PACT in the Vale

COME along to Gibbonsdown 'Cuppa with a Copper' held every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry, between 10am and 12 noon.

Buttrills surgery will be held at the Barry Library, King Square on Tuesday, March 17 between 10am and 12 noon.

Meet your local officer at Llantwit Major Library on Tuesday, March 17 between 10.30am and 11.30am.

Cuppa with a Copper will take place at The Sycamore Inn Colwinston at 11am on Tuesday, March 17.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life but you are unable to attend a meeting, call 101 for non-emergencies or visit www.southwales.police.uk to contact your local PCSO for non emergency matters.

Golden Oldies music

GOLDEN Oldies works with older people, their aim to bring a bit of joy and laughter to people's lives.

We encourage singing and dancing with popular music from the 50s, 60s and 70s. We are most definitely not a choir – we are an inclusive and caring group that uses music as the catalyst to bring people together. A session will be held at Golau Caredig, Broad Street, Barry on Tuesday, March 10 from 10.30am-11.30am. All are welcome.

Two heads better?'

A TALK by Jane Fearnley-Whittingstall takes place on Wednesday, March 11 in the St Quentin Suite of the Bear Hotel.

Jane is a double gold medal winner at the Chelsea Flower Show, a renowned garden designer and author. She will give a presentation after the Annual General Meeting of the Cowbridge Physic Garden, at 7.30pm covering the dangerous ground of whether men just do veggies, edges and hedges, while women are more flowers and bowers. All are welcome, tickets £5 on the door.

Chat & Chill

CHAT & Chill takes place on Thursday mornings in the Cowbridge branch of Costa Coffee, from 10.30am to 12pm.

Are you new to the area? Feeling lonely? Want to meet new people? Just turn up or contact Alun at 01446 774699 for more details.

Domestic violence advice

IF you are worried about a domestic violence issue, whether for yourself, a loved one or family friend, help is available from Atal y Fro covering the Vale of Glamorgan.

Age Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a drop-in session on Tuesday, March 10 from 10am to 12pm at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry.

Call 01446 732385 for further information, or just come along.

Cowbridge U3A

THE next Cowbridge U3A monthly meeting will be a talk entitled 'A Foreign Student's World', by UWC Students at 2pm on Wednesday, March 11 in Cowbridge Town Hall. Visitors welcome; there is a small fee, which includes refreshments. See www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge.

Walk and Talk

ARE you living in the Bridgend Valley area? The Ogmore Valley Life centre aim to bring mental and physical health together while signposting people to mental health care and support.

The group is open to everyone from any area and will tie into other groups helping people like Inch by Inch Walking Group. The Walk and Talk group meet every Wednesday from 6pm.

Highlight Cuppa

THE March dates for the Cuppa sessions in Highlight Park Community Centre are Monday, March 9 and 23, commencing at 2.30pm.

Don't stay home alone, come and meet new friends! Everyone is welcome to join us and will be made very welcome. If you have any queries call Ada on 01446 722412.

Legal advice

AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale will hold a free legal advice session at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, March 10 from 10am to 12pm.

If you would like help and advice on making a Will, Power of Attorney or Living Will, come and have a chat to someone from a local legal team. No appointment is needed; call 01446/732385 for further information.

Mayor's coffee morning

A MAYOR'S coffee morning takes place at the Civic Offices, Barry, on Wednesday, March 11 from 10.30pm onwards.

Entry free, including drinks and biscuits. Proceeds to Cadoxton Bowls Club.

Can we solve the tipping problem?

ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENTALIST Brian Mayne begins his new monthly column looking at everyday environmental issues.

Brian is a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts, as well as the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management, Chartered Environmentalist and is recognised by the International Solid Waste Association as an International Waste Manager.

He begins his monthly series of articles with a look at some of the issues surrounding fly-tipping.

WELSH taxpayers spend nearly £2 million a year cleaning up rubbish dumped illegally in our cities, town, villages and countryside and this doesn't include the money spent by landowners who have to pay to remove fly-tipping found on private land. But it's not only the financial implications that we need to consider, what about the adverse impacts on our health, the damage to our environment and the risk to animal welfare?

There were 35,076 instances of fly-tipping reported to local councils in Wales, 357 in the Vale. The Vale Council are responsible for investigating incidents. Fly-tipping can be organised criminal gangs dumping lorry-loads of rubbish to householders dumping a sofa. So, what can we do about it? Firstly, inform the Council. They have a designated page where you can do this online. If we have something to dispose of, items can be offered free or sold on websites such as eBay, Freecycle, Preloved or Gumtree or donated to a charity shop. The Council will collect, but you'll have to pay and if the waste is from a DIY project, and take it to the Household Waste Recycling Centre or arrange for someone else to dispose of it elsewhere at a registered waste site. If we pay someone to take away our unwanted items, such as skip hire or house clearance, we must check that the person or company taking it is a registered waste carrier; check online at the Natural Resources Wales website. Fly-tipping Action Wales recommends that when someone takes away our rubbish, we should write down the operator's registration number, details of the business or vehicle and keep a receipt including description of the waste and company used. Always ask them before they start where the waste will go. It's also worth pointing out that if we ask them to remove additional waste that we've produced on our property, we must also check they are a registered waste carrier. If we can't show that we took all reasonable steps to ensure that waste produced on our property is passed to a licensed individual to dispose of it, we risk a fine of £300 or even prosecution.

It's our responsibility to make sure that our waste is disposed of safely, legally and responsibly to play our part in tackling this scourge on our environment.

Welsh cakes for Welsh Women's Aid

WELSH cook, food writer and presenter Beca Lyne-Pirkis calls on communities to back the Welsh Cakes for Welsh Women's Aid campaign this March.

March is Welsh Cakes for Welsh Women's Aid month. The campaign aims to raise funds for Welsh Women's Aid, increase awareness around issues of violence against women in our communities, and encourage conversations about how we can all make change that lasts – by hosting cake sales and enjoying cake!

"It's shocking to me that violence against women remains so prevalent in our communities.

"By supporting the Welsh Cakes for Welsh Women's Aid campaign, we can actively make a difference. I'm calling on people across Wales to sign up to hold Welsh Cakes for Welsh Women's Aid events to mark International Women's Day or at any time during March.

"At the same time, you can join in the conversation about how we can work together to end violence against women in our communities."

Individuals or organisations that would like to hold Welsh Cakes events can sign up at www.welshwomensaid.org.uk/support-us/welshcakes.

The search for interplanetary life

IN 1995, scientists detected a planet orbiting a star 50 light years away in the constellation of Pegasus.

This was the first planet discovered orbiting a main sequence star which is in the same stage of its evolution as our own Sun. Things have moved on apace since then, and just 12 months ago, on March 12, 2019, the number of identified exoplanets exceeded 4,000. Of these, however, only 49 were judged as being potentially habitable - planets which have stable orbits around their stars in the so-called Goldilocks Zone where liquid water can be sustained on their surface.

The majority of these 4,000 exoplanets were discovered by the Kepler Space Telescope, which reached the end of its life in mid-2018 after using up all of its fuel. That same year, to replace Kepler, NASA launched TESS the Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite on a two-year mission to continue exoplanet discovery. Transiting planets are those which pass in front of their star causing a drop in brightness as seen from the telescope.

Both Kepler and TESS have revolutionised our understanding of exoplanets, but how do they differ? Launched in 2009, Kepler observed just a relatively small, fixed portion of the sky, whereas TESS is surveying the whole sky split into 26 overlapping sectors. It spends a month observing each sector over the course of its two-year mission.

Their observing strategies also differ; Kepler's fixed view and long exposure times allowed it to focus on the more distant, dimmer stars. TESS, however, looks at the nearby, brightest targets. The great advantage of this is that planet candidates around these closer stars will be easier to observe using ground based telescopes.

So, what have we learned from TESS? With just a month or so to go, TESS has identified just under 2,000 candidate exoplanets of which 41 have been confirmed to date. About 100 light years away, in the little-known constellation Dorado, TESS has found a planetary system named TOI 700 which includes the first Earth-size habitable zone planet discovered so far. Its star is a cool dwarf, about 40% of the size of our Sun and about half its surface temperature, and scientists have observed multiple transits of three planets. The outermost of these is just 20% larger than Earth and the only one of the three in the star's habitable zone. It orbits the star every 47 days and receives from it about 85% of the energy which the Sun provides to Earth. The exact conditions on the planet are unknown, but researchers are employing computer modelling to judge whether its surface temperatures and pressures may be suitable for habitability.

More exciting for planet hunters, a very difficult but promising Direct Imaging method has been developed. As the name suggests, Direct Imaging allows for the capture of actual exoplanet images. Infrared photography is used as, at this wavelength, a star will appear 1,000 times less bright than at visual wavelengths. Only 100 exoplanets have so far been identified by Direct Imaging but although rare, wherever direct detections can be made, scientists can glean valuable information on planets. The spectra reflected from a planet's atmosphere allows astronomers to obtain accurate information about its composition. This leads to characterisation of the planet and a possible determination of its habitability. In the case of a planet orbiting the star Fomalhaut, for example, Direct Imaging has led to a determination of the planet's mass and the confirmation of a massive ring system. Until now, this technology works best for planets with wide orbits (where the obscuring effect of their star is lessened) and for planets which are particularly massive. So not too useful as yet in searching for potentially habitable planets.

But who knows what the future holds for us?

Norman Lloyd

Welsh Government should 'get behind business'

IN a passionate debate tabled by the Welsh Conservatives on February 26, the Shadow Minister for Transport called on the Labour administration to recognise the importance of roads as vital economic arteries which promote prosperity.

Russell George AM/AC drove home the case for a re-think of roads infrastructure policy and delivery in Wales, which has been subject to delays, overspends, and missed opportunities for a decade. The most recent embarrassment for the Welsh Labour administration was the Auditor General's scathing recent report on Section 2 of the A465, which is over budget by £100 million and overdue by – when complete – three years. The report included a caveat: the full cost and the real completion date are 'uncertain'.

Mr George said: "A failure to properly plan the long-term delivery of new road infrastructure and road improvement schemes, a failure to appropriately manage the procurement and delivery of road schemes and a failure to support Wales' road network with appropriate levels of financing have resulted in a road transport system that is completely unable to cope with current levels of demand. All of this is having a major detrimental impact on Wales' productivity, competitiveness and economic future, all aspirations of the Welsh Government's Prosperity for All Economic Action Plan."

Continuing, Mr George said: "One of the worst and worrying examples of the Welsh Government's poor management of the road network in Wales is of course the level of ongoing congestion on the M4 motorway. Wales' only strategic road has been blighted by huge traffic congestion for many years, and the Welsh Government has yet to provide an adequate solution to that problem.

"While the Welsh Government has been dithering and shelving any meaningful schemes, the volume of traffic on the M4 is increasing." Mr George said that Welsh Conservatives were "hugely disappointed" that the First Minister took the unilateral decision not to proceed with the M4 relief road in spite of the support offered by the UK Government, especially since an independent inquiry – which cost the taxpayer £144m – concluded that the M4 relief road should be built.

He added: "The Planning Inspectorate's Report found that the Welsh Government's assertion that it would be inconsistent with its declaration of a climate emergency is incorrect. The report found that, and I quote, '… the scheme would save about 4,324 tonnes of user carbon emitted to the Welsh road network each year, with increasing savings into the future'."

The Shadow Transport Minister called on the Welsh Government to work with the UK Government to deliver an M4 relief road as soon as possible. "We're of course disappointed with the result of the debate, and the failure of Members from other parties to acknowledge that roads are an intrinsic part of the transport infrastructure mix here. They seem not to acknowledge the continuing reliance on them because of the paucity of public transport in Wales under this Welsh Labour administration. The Welsh government must get behind business, and back an integrated transport policy, because this government is not doing enough to facilitate faster, cleaner, efficient transport for commuters, businesses, learners, and tourists."

IN BUSINESS ADVERTISING/ADVERTORIAL FEATURE IN BUSINESS

LOCAL NEEDS, LOCAL SERVICES

Get moving freely

AT The Home Physio Company, we are celebrating and expanding!

The company has been awarded 'Best Mobile Rehabilitation Specialists – Wales' in the 2020 Private Healthcare Awards, which has made everyone involved very happy.

The company would like to introduce two wonderful physiotherapists who are now working alongside Suzy Battle, providing vital rehabilitation in clients' homes aiding recovery, building strength and improving lives.

Amy Norris and Carley Thomas both live locally, they have the same enthusiasm for caring for others. They provide the highest quality of rehabilitation and strive to improve clients' lives. Both fit in perfectly with the company's aims and beliefs.

On a different note, last week was 'Falls Awareness Week'. In 2019, the Welsh Ambulance Service received 57,404 calls due to a fall – that's 157 per day in Wales.

When people fall, they can not only cause physical injury but can lose their confidence, their independence and become fearful of living. This in turn means they slow down, do less, become weaker and thus become at a higher risk of falls, and the beginning of a downward spiral can begin.

But physiotherapy in many different ways will help – The Home Physio Company can help.

Please get in touch with any concerns over falls or any other rehabilitation need.

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Suzy Battle
www.thehomephysiocompany.co.uk
info@thehomephysiocompany.co.uk
Tel: 07866 166645

Expert advice could help to avoid dispute

BRENDAN Sweeney, of David Prosser & Co Solicitors, writes:

It is estimated that 60% of the UK population does not have a Will.

A Will takes effect on your death, and is an instruction as to what is to happen to your estate. Probate disputes and challenges to Wills are becoming a growth area, which often leads to substantial costs. We now live in a world where family relationships are often very complex, and expert advice regarding the drafting of a Will is essential.

A professional advisor can also advise you in relation to inheritance tax, and how you plan to minimise potential liabilities to it. It is important that people are fully aware of their duties and financial responsibilities when they make a Will, to ensure that they comply with the technicalities that are required to have a valid Will.

The cost of a professionally-drafted Will, after taking advice, is considerably less than the costs that can be incurred if there is a dispute regarding your financial affairs after your death. Substantial costs can also be saved by taking professional advice early, and putting in place Powers of Attorney – whereby you appoint trusted people to make decisions about your property and financial affairs and health and welfare, if you lose capacity.

The people appointed are made fully aware of their rights and responsibilities.

Toenail cutting - and so much more

WENDY'S Professional Toenail Cutting Service does what it says on the tin – with a whole lot more thrown in for free.

Yes, your toes will be trimmed by a fully qualified professional, but what is really on offer is companionship from someone who has great experience of looking after the elderly.

After working in the caring professions for many years, Wendy was recently trained by the NHS and has been calling on clients in the Bridgend, Porthcawl, Barry and any areas in between for some time now.

Word of mouth has meant that she has built up a number of satisfied customers. When she pays a house call she brings her previous experience to bear, and understands that for many elderly people, the social contact is as important as keeping their toes tidy.

So no more worries about not being able to reach your feet and unsightly toenails, just sit back and leave it to wonderful Wendy.

An hour's visit costs £20 and Wendy carries references, her CRB check and insurance information with her.

Helping you find your dream bathroom

WHO are we?

City Plumbing has built on its reputation of selling quality products and providing expert service to the plumbing and heating trade for more than 25 years.

Our award winning business spans the trade, home improvement and DIY markets: and 249 of our locations also have fitted bathroom showrooms, including our successful branch at Bridgend.

Whether you are a trade or retail customer, at Bridgend you can view and buy the best branded and own label bathroom ranges. We can help you find a complete offer, and for our retail customers, to complete the service, we can also put you in touch with a local installer to finish the job.

At Bridgend:

- We can provide quotations for both the trade and retail customers
- We offer 3D CAD drawings allowing you to visualise your dream bathroom.
- Dedicated showroom to include a new tile offering.

To find out more, come and say hello to Liz, bathroom showroom manager at 1-2 Ogmore Crescent, Bridgend. We are open Monday to Friday 8am - 5pm and Saturday from 8am -12pm.

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NEWS FROM LOCAL CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Highlight Park WI

THE talk at Highlight Park WI this month was delivered by NatWest Community banker Sian Chudleigh, entitled Friends Against Scams, a National Trading Standards initiative which aims to prevent people becoming victims of scams.

People tend not to talk about it if they have been scammed, with 16-25 year olds being the largest number. Fraud is the largest crime in the country costing £5 – 10 billion loss last year. Postal/telephone/doorstep/online scams were discussed.

Telephone scams are the biggest problems at the moment, so we were given five tips as follows.

Don't disclose personal info; Don't assume everyone is genuine; Listen to your instincts; Don't be rushed into things, and Stay in control. Leaflets were handed out to remind us of the risks. This was a very useful, informative afternoon which gave us food for thought.

On a bright day in February, the Highlight Park ladies alighted a super bus to take them to the city of Cardiff to have a guided tour around City Hall; but before that, we were treated to a fantastic afternoon tea.

With waiters hovering to serve our tea and coffee (with tea strainers as well), we helped ourselves to the mouthwatering array of tiny cakes, scones, lemon cakes, fruit tarts in chocolate-lined cases, as well as tiny finger sandwiches of various fillings. All with a whiter than white tablecloth with a single candle in the middle.

The statues in the Marble Hall and the Assembly Room were stunning. The statues were made from Serraveza marble, depicting the heroes of Wales; and were a gift to the city from Lord Rhondda of Llanwern. They cost £15,000.

Of particular beauty were mouldings of mermaids, seashells over the entrances to the Council Chamber and the Assembly Room. Well worth a visit.

Later in the month, we held an activity afternoon when we all had a game of curling. It was very enjoyable and is thoroughly recommended.

Coming up we have various talks planned and trips to go on and fundraising for local charities.

The group meets on the first Tuesday of each month at the moment, and at 2pm for social afternoons on the third Tuesday of each month. Sewing Circle meets every Thursday at 2 pm.

Llantwit Major Horticultural Society

ON February 27 at the Society's monthly meeting, members heard an interesting and entertaining talk by herbalist Peter Rosser, who practices in the health shop in Llantwit.

He explained that many of the weeds we all dread, such as dandelion, nettles, couch grass, ground elder and Japanese knotweed have many uses. He explained how herbs may assist us in treating various ailments.

He answered questions from the audience and stressed that pharmaceuticals still have a place in treating us, but herbs can help too, especially in chronic cases.

The group was informed that the day trip to Knightshays in Devon has been arranged for April 26.

The next meeting is March 25 at the Llantonian Hall at 7.30pm in Llantwit Major to hear Terry Walton, Jeremy Vine's Radio 2 gardener, speak on 'Gardening in the Media'; all are welcome.

For more information, visit www.llantwit-major-horticultral-society.com or email llantwitmajorhortsoc @gmail.com.

Choir's annual concert a success

'BRING more chairs' was the cry at the start of Maesteg Male Voice Choir's 45th annual concert.

Such was the number of people coming to hear the choir and their guest artist, tenor Rhys Meirion from north Wales.

Because of the town hall being closed for refurbishment, the concert was moved to the local comprehensive school.

Musical director Huw Morgan arranged a varied programme and a first for the choir was a performance by Unit 48, musicians from Neath College, who also joined the choir for the finale.

Laura Deenik, the choir's accompanist, showed what a tremendous asset she is to the choir.

The choir would like to thank the audience, who turned out in great numbers.

TH

A Welsh-themed St David's Day Supper was held recently at Fontygary Leisure park to raise funds for the community library.

RAF Cadets support Wings Appeal

2426 Royal Air Force Pencoed Cadets FS L Mckean, Cpl D Vine and Cdt E Davies were presented with karting vouchers for TeamSport Karting in Cardiff, for being the top collectors for the 2019 Royal Air Force Association wings appeal in the Porthcawl and Bridgend Borough by Kevin Gould, of the RAFA.

The squadron was also presented with a certificate as they raised £647.18 towards the appeal by manning stalls at Wartime Bridgend and the county show in Pencoed.

The Wings appeal is the RAF Association's ongoing campaign that runs throughout the year. It helps raise funds to support former and serving RAF personnel and their families.

Cheers to St David at library fundraiser

GLASSES were raised in good cheer at Rhoose Community Library's St David's Supper, which took place on Saturday at the Bayview Suite, Fontygary Leisure Park, to raise funds to support the library.

A full house enjoyed wonderful entertainment from Cantorion Creigiau Singers, who generously and enthusiastically supported the event. A delicious Welsh-themed supper was served and there was much good humour and fun throughout the evening.

Christine Jakeway, library fundraiser and organiser said: "I would like to offer sincere thanks to Cantorion Creigiau, the team at Fontygary Leisure Park and to everyone who came along on the evening. We were delighted with the success of this wonderful celebration!"

BH

New members wanted

BARRY Yacht Club Sea Rowing are having an open afternoon for prospective rowing members on Saturday, March 21 from 2.15pm.

The sea rowing section of the club has continued to grow since its formation in 2013 with our members both male and female not only enjoying social rowing around our local coastline but also taking part in league racing at other clubs.

The Celtic Long Boats are 24ft long and constructed of fibreglass, designed to be rowed by four persons and a cox. We have just taken delivery of a new boat, which will enable us to take on some new members; so if you are interested in having some fun while enjoying some healthy exercise, why not come along and meet some of our members, hear about the club and view the boats.

The Yacht Club is by Jackson's Bay. If you are interested we will give you a couple of trial rows before you need commit to joining us. To register your interest, contact Roger Donkin at rogerdon37@ gmail.com.

Cyprus – the Green Line

THE meeting this week welcomed Jeanne Harvey, whose talk with many visual displays was about the history of Cyprus which is the third largest island in the Mediterranean sea.

The island has had a very chequered past with many people laying claim to its territory, including Alexander the Great, the Romans, Richard the Lionheart (selling the island to the Order of the Knights Templar).

In latter years – 1925 – Cyprus became a Crown Colony.

In 1960, Cyprus was granted independent status under the Treaty of Guarantee, in 1961 joining the British Commonwealth. Hostilities between the Greek and Turkish people still persisted, each laying claim to complete sovereignty and by 1974 a buffer zone was created separating the warring factions.

Forum meets weekly on a Thursday at 9.45am in Holy Trinity Church Hall on Aberystwyth Crescent, Barry. For further information call Mac Tanner on 01446 743455.

PDGG

Barry Camera Club

IN February, Barry Camera Club visited the Vale Camera Club at Ystradowen for the annual six-way print battle.

Each club entered four colour prints and four Monochrome prints. The competition judge gave a constructive assessment of the prints and expressed his pleasure at the extremely high quality of the photography, with Barry slipping from last year's joint third to fifth position. Those members who could not take the trip to Ystradowen were given a members' evening at the club.

Final scores were: Bridgend 152 points, Rhondda 146, The Vale 145, Pyle & Porthcawl 144, Barry 141 and Morriston 140.

On February 14, a guest speaker who specialised in traditional darkroom work, David Lingham, a Fellow of the Royal Photographic Society, visited. He treated the club to a beautiful set of monochrome prints, matched by an informative and entertaining commentary. His photographs very powerfully evoked mood, although doing so often involved him going out in inclement weather when others might be tempted to stay at home, warm and dry. With no back screen to review images, as with a digital camera, David had to 'pre-visualise' what he wanted to achieve and then set about 'making' his photographs.

On February 21 Barbra and Jamie Archdale Smith delivered a talk on their visit to Cuba last year, which provided great subject matter. The vibrant colours of the 1950s vehicles and the local architecture, even when it was in an advanced state of decay, was ideal for photographs, particularly when it was also inhabited by local people. Barbara confessed that to begin with she was anxious about approaching these people, but she clearly gained in confidence and came away with some classic street photography and more besides.

She presented a lovely mix of images, including monochromes which often serve to simplify images or emphasise the patterned shadows which were there to be photographed. All in all, a visual feast.

The final meeting of the month was, as always, our competition and the guest judge on this occasion was old friend of the club Leigh Woolford. Leigh gave measured and constructive criticism during the evening and expressed his pleasure in the overall standard of the entries.

The awards were: Colour Prints: 1st, Roy Carr with 'Hawthorn In The Beacons'; 2nd, Roy Carr with 'Sychryd Falls' and 3rd, Kathy Edwards with 'Uzbekistan Fashion'.

Mono Prints: 1st, Roy Carr with 'Melincourt Fall'; 2nd, Roy Carr with 'Sisters' and 3rd, Pat Hollis with 'Under The Pier'.

Projected Images: 1st, Tina Hayden with 'Merry Go Round'; 2nd, Tina Hayden with 'Belle' and 3rd, Philippa Evans with 'Ram and Dam'.

Congratulations to all, particularly Roy and Tina for multiple successes.

Throughout the rest of the year we have a full programme of talks, demonstrations, photographic expeditions, competitions and inter-club battles planned. New members are particularly encouraged and will be made most welcome with a programme being prepared especially for the new and less experienced photographers to allow them to quickly gain more proficiency and satisfaction from their hobby. During the summer we will hold open days and field trips to encourage people to learn a little more about the art of photography and produce better pictures.

Barry Camera Club meets every Friday evening from 7pm to 9.30pm at St Francis Millennium Centre, Porth-y-Castell, Barry Garden Suburb, Barry CF62 6NX. We are a very friendly organisation and people of all experience and skill levels are welcome to attend with no obligation to join. For more information visit www.barrycameraclub.co.uk or see our Facebook page.

Barry author's talk at War Museum

BARRY Island author and public speaker, Ron Powell, will be giving a 45-minute illustrated talk at the Barry At War Museum in Barry Island Station at 7pm on Thursday, March 19.

The title of the talk is 'From Shropshire to the Falklands'.

Growing up in Ludlow, Shropshire, Ron dreamed of becoming a pilot in the RAF. Just over a decade later he was flying a four-engined Hercules transport plane over the South Atlantic during the Falklands War.

In the preceding nine years he'd completed an RAF engineering apprenticeship, worked as an airframe and engine fitter on Vulcan nuclear bombers at the height of the Cold War, and completed officer and pilot training.

Ron says, 'All the jobs I had during my 32 years in the RAF were interesting, but when I look at photographs of my time on the Hercules, and the Falklands era especially, I realise it was probably the most exciting period."

Since retirement, he has published four books: a Battle of Britain novel, *Wings Over Summer*; a sequel, *Wings Over Malta;* and two volumes of his memoir, *Shropshire Blue.* The hero of both Wings novels is a Spitfire pilot from Barry.

Admission to Ron's talk is free and the Museum café will be open for the purchase of refreshments.

You can read more about Ron's career, writing and public speaking on his website: *www.ronpowell.co.uk.*

Calls for women's detention centre to be built

MP CHRIS Elmore is calling for a women's detention centre to be built in Wales.

The Ogmore MP told Lord Chancellor Robert Buckland in the Commons there is a specific problem relating to female reoffenders and the lack of a women's centre in Wales. He asked Mr Buckland for an update on the progress he is making with the Welsh Government on ensuring that a women's centre will be built in Wales in the coming months or years.

Mr Buckland said Mr Elmore was right to press him on this issue.

He said providing a women's detention centre in Wales is an ambition of his, given that Eastwood Park in Gloucestershire is currently the nearest secure accommodation for Welsh female offenders.

Mr Buckland said: "At the moment, I cannot promise specific plans. But I am prepared to work with him and the Welsh Government to make that a reality through our excellent women offenders' strategy."

Visit www.glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Dog of the Week

BEANIE is a gorgeous six-year-old Akita cross looking for his forever home.

He's a sensitive chap and will need patient owners who can come along and visit him several times to get to know him before taking him home.

Beanie likes to retreat to his own space when he feels overwhelmed, but adores the company of other dogs who bring him out of his shell.

He would enjoy living with another dog in the home, as well as having doggy friends to go out walking with.

Beanie would suit an adult-only home where owners are around to settle him in, as he is not used to being on his own for a long period of time.

He travels well in the car, so will make a great adventure buddy.

For more information on Beanie, visit the Dogs Trust Rehoming Centre in Bridgend, CF31 4NG, call 01656 338745 or visit www.dogstrust.org.uk.

Just Go! Holidays
UK BREAKS
Reader travel
Tindle Newspapers
By Coach from Bridgend & Cardiff

STUNNING SNOWDONIA
& Llandudno at Leisure

Departing Monday 11 May

On this relaxing break to the scenic coast of North Wales we enjoy the genteel ambience of Llandudno, known as the 'Queen of the Welsh Resorts'. We also explore Snowdonia with its awe-inspiring landscapes scattered with picturesque towns and villages.

Your break includes
- Return coach travel from Bridgend & Cardiff
- 4 nights at the Grand Hotel, Llandudno with dinner & breakfast
- Entertainment every evening
- Excursion to Trefriw Woollen Mills, Betws-y-Coed, Llanberis & Caernarfon

Optional excursions to Chester (£12pp) and Bangor, Isle of Anglesey & Beaumaris (£12pp)

5 Days by Coach only £289
Single Supplement £60

RHS CHELSEA
Flower Show 2020

Departing Friday 22 May

The iconic Chelsea Flower Show is a must attend event, and if you haven't been yet, now is the time! This is the most prestigious flower show in the country, showcasing all the latest in garden design innovation in the grounds of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

Your break includes
- Return coach travel from Bridgend & Cardiff
- Overnight stay at a 3 or 4-star hotel outside London with dinner & full English breakfast
- Admission to the RHS Chelsea Flower Show, with coach transfer

2 Days by Coach only £189
Single Supplement £35

NORTHUMBERLAND
Holy Island & Alnwick Castle

Departing Sunday 19 Jul

Ancient castles, vast sandy beaches and rolling moorland: the rugged scenery and seascapes of Northumberland are spectacular and some of the most unspoilt of coastal Britain. On this break we also explore Hadrian's Wall and the Holy Island of Lindisfarne.

Your break includes
- Return coach travel from Bridgend & Cardiff
- 4 nights at the Jurys Inn, Newcastle Gateshead Quays with dinner & breakfast
- Guided tour of Hadrian's Wall
- Excursions to the Holy Island of Lindisfarne, Alnwick Castle, Hadrian's Wall & Chesters Fort

Optional excursion to Durham (£12pp)

5 Days by Coach only £349
Single Supplement £60

For more information, or to book, please call
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Book today!

Out & About with The GEM

DINING OUT

The Gem visits the Mughal Emperor

THERE is something about the A48 that seems to encourage longevity in restaurants.

The Aubrey Arms and the Old Post have been there for more than 60 years and, on the Cowbridge bypass, The Mughal Emperor has been a fixture for more than 25.

There are advantages to this, in that you build up a loyal fan base from quite a wide area, and that is certainly true of The Mughal, who have regulars coming from Cardiff or Newport in the east, and from Swansea in the west, and from all points in between.

The disadvantage is that over time you blend into the scenery, and people on the bypass just pass by. So The Gem thought it was high time that it investigated why all those regulars make the journey.

The first thing you notice is that The Mughal Emperor has dispensed with the traditional Indian restaurant design elements. There is no flock wallpaper and no pictures from the days of The Raj.

It's bright, clean and classical, taking advantage of the high ceiling to give a sense of space. It's classy as well as classical, and it's a comforting feeling when you arrive.

You sit down and examine the impressive menu, which looks expensive, but you are soon reassured when you see that the average price for starters is £3.95 to £4.50.

There's plenty of choice (and the same goes for main courses). Lamb Passanda as a starter for £4.50 was tempting, as was the Chicken Gastabo (diced chicken, marinated in garlic, with green peppers, tomatoes and herbs and spices).

However, I went for the Prawn Puri, prawns in a rich sauce served with deep-fried leavened bread. It was a pleasant surprise to me because I have had mini puris in the past that were light and crunchy.

This was much more substantial – almost a meal in itself – with the very good sauce and prawns folded between the bread; not a million miles away from a burrito. It was a highly enjoyable start to the meal.

My guest, to be honest, didn't do me any favours by ordering garlic mushrooms (£3.95). There's not a lot a reviewer can say about garlic mushrooms but she was happy to confirm that the dish delivered exactly what she wanted in terms of texture, and the mix of garlic and butter sauce was just right.

It took a long time to settle on a main course but in the end, my guest settled on the tradirional section of the menu (all the old favourites are here) and ordered a Lamb Bhuna. Excellent value once again at £7.95, and she was very pleased with the dish, which offered plenty of tender lamb and a good rich sauce.

I went to the Chef's Recommendation section, where again there was a considerable choice. I tend to be drawn to dishes that are new to me, so I went for the Manipuri Chicken Palong – chicken breast stuffed with spinach and cheese, with lamb keema and curry leaves, finished with the chef's special sauce, which was tomato based and mildly spiced.

This turned out be excellent, full of flavour and the sort of dish where you want to clean the plate. However, The Mughal Emperor has all the usual extras: poppadoms, naan breads and rices, and the cumulative effect was that it was just too filling.

That fine Prawn Puri starter was clearly a factor, as well. I did, however, nearly finish it!

The generous portions at the Mughal Emperor probably affect its dessert sales. There's a tempting choice of ice creams but my guest and I were just too full.

I need hardly add that there is a good range of beers and wines to accompany any choice of meal, and that the overwhelming impression you get from eating at the Mughal Emperor is that it is a restaurant that knows how to meet diners' expectations.

We ate there on a Wednesday evening, not the busiest night of the week, but a steady stream of customers – all clearly enjoying their meal – suggests to me that there are plenty of people around south Wales who appreciate and enjoy what the Mughal has to offer.

There are diners out there who are always looking for the newest place, but restaurants that have survived for a decent length of time do so for a reason, and The Mughal Emperor is definitely proof of that particular pudding!

For more details

A group of happy customers at the Mughal Emperor.

A look at Wales' first Taco Bell

TACO Bell opened its first restaurant in Wales this week offering Mexican cuisine on the Vale of Glamorgan's doorstep. Reporter Ariane Hill was invited to the official launch party to find out more.

The first Taco Bell in Wales opened its doors on March 2, bringing a taste of the American franchise's Mexican food to Cardiff.

I was invited to the official launch party last Thursday, February 27 where I was able to take a peek at the new restaurant on St Mary Street and try a sample of the food which will be on the menu.

The new restaurant, which seats 49 people, is open for both delivery and to dine-in.

The design of the restaurant is open and bright, what you'd hope for from a modern fast food restaurant – happily social with an array of seating.

A highlight of my experience, food aside, was probably the staff as once I had made them aware that I am a vegetarian, they took great care in bringing me vegetarian samples and explaining in detail what was in each dish.

The many samples, which staff took around the restaurant to everyone for them to pick and choose from, were generous half portions of selected dishes from the menu.

I tried a hard taco, a soft taco, the Crunchwrap Supreme, the Volcano Burrito, the fajitas quesadilla, loaded fries, a Lemon Quench Freeze and churros with caramel sauce.

Guests arrived at Taco Bell on Thursday evening to loaded nachos ready to be shared and an abundance of hot sauce – all of varying spice levels.

On a personal level, either the hard taco or the Crunchwrap Supreme was my favourite as both boasted crispy textures, cheese, fresh salad, pleasantly spicy sauce and pico de gallo.

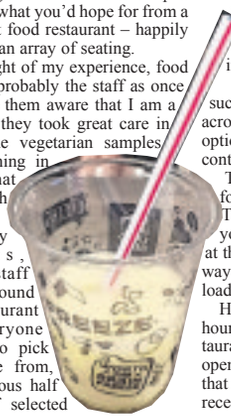
Fellow vegetarians, rejoice! as there is not only the vegetarian option of black beans, but they can be subsituted for the meat in any of the dishes – or removed if you're not a bean lover.

Unexpectedly, the Lemon Quench Freeze was a very welcome addition to the evening as it was the perfect palate cleanser and mouth cooler before the churros – cooked fresh in store.

Unlike other fast food restaurants such as McDonalds, which is only across the road, there are alcoholic options such as Sol lager or a Freeze containing rum or tequila for adults.

The one piece of advice for any food-lover looking to try the new Taco Bell would be to make sure you grab a good handful of napkins at the beginning – as there is no clean way of eating items like hard tacos or loaded nachos.

Hundreds of people queued for five hours to enter the American chain restaurant on Monday when it officially opened to the public with the promise that the first 100 customers would receive free tee shirts.



The new Taco Bell; inset are the churros, above left are the loaded fries and right is the hard taco. To the left is a Lemon Quench Freeze drink.

What's on in your area?

Country market

COWBRIDGE Country Market reopens on Friday, March 6 at 9.30am in the Lesser Hall.

We look forward to welcoming all our friends and customers and there will be lots of new season marmalade plus our usual freshly baked goodies. Enjoy tea or coffee in our pretty tea room too.

Table top sale

THE Sandville Self Help Centre, Ton Kenfig, CF33 4PU, is holding a table top sale this Saturday, March 7, 2.30pm to 4pm.

Sandville's table top sales take place on the first Saturday of the month. There will be a raffle, tea, coffee, cake and various stalls.

Councillors' surgeries

CLLRS Andrew Davies and Gordon Kemp will be holding a surgery at the Community Hall, Stewart Road, Rhoose on Friday, March 6 between 6pm and 7pm; no appointment necessary.

Llantwit First Independent councillors will be holding a surgery at the Heritage Centre, Town Hall, Llantwit Major on Saturday, March 7 from 9.30am until 11.30am. Residents who have any issue to raise are welcome to attend.

Greenlinks Transport

IF you have difficulty accessing public transport, Greenlinks Community Transport in Vale may be the answer for you.

Greenlinks offer door to door service and have four minibuses which are accessible. It also offers a weekly 'on demand' services for appointments. Come along on Tuesday, March 10 from 10am to 12pm to Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry. No appointment is needed. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

Top folk band say farewell at Porthcawl festival

ONE of Wales' most popular folk groups will be saying farewell at the Cwlwm Celtaidd music festival, which takes place over three days in Porthcawl (March 6,7, and 8) at the Hi-Tide Inn.

The festival always brings an eclectic line up to Porthcawl, featuring Celtic acts from from around the UK and also from Europe.

However, this year the much-loved band, Jamie Smith's Mabon, will be playing in Porthcawl for the last time.

During their time together, Jamie has pretty much re-defined the accordion, stepping into the spotlight to play virtuosos solos just like a lead guitarist in a rock band.

The band have recorded five albums – 'Ridiculous Thinkers', 'OK Pewter', 'Live at the Grand Pavilion','Windblown' and the recently released 'The Space Between'.

They have attracted rave reviews from media all over the world:

"Epic... Mabon became famous across Wales, and then the festival circuit, thanks to the power and versatility of Smith's remarkable accordion work" – The Guardian.

"A fearsome reputation as a live band... stratospheric" – Financial Times.

"They are easily one of the best of the UK's folk bands, making full use of great melodies, driving rhythms and an irrepressible stage presence" – worldmusic.co.uk

The festival has a busy programme over its three days.

For more information, go to *http://www.cwlwmceltaidd.org*

All are welcome in Llantwit for World Day of Prayer

A CHURCH in Llantwit Major is welcoming its community to it for the World Day of Prayer.

Bethel Baptist Church, on Durell Street, is welcoming others to join its World Day of Prayer service at 7pm tomorrow – Friday, March 6 – which is looking to part of a world-wide event and followed by hot drinks and cakes.

A church spokeswoman said: "As we participate in this service, we are part of a great wave of prayer encircling the globe, which begins as the sun rises over Samoa and ends some 36 hours later, back in the Pacific as the sun sets over American Samoa. We will be joining with people in over 120 countries and islands around the world.

"Each year the service is written by a different country. This year it has been prepared by the Christian women of Zimbabwe who call us to 'Rise! Take your mat and walk'. We are encouraged to reflect on the difficulties and unrest that have plagued their country over many years. They share the challenges they have met and the hopes they have for the future and invite us to support them as they continue their often turbulent journey towards full reconciliation.

"As we hear their stories, the challenge for them and for us is that we will constantly seek love, peace and reconciliation."

Bethel Baptist Church will also be hosting Ladies Afternoon Delights, a clothes and accessories swap, from 2pm until 4pm on Saturday, March 7 which will also

Betty arrives at the Paget Rooms!

THE consistently surprising and entertaining Concept Players return to the Paget Rooms in Penarth this March with the comedy musical *Betty Blue Eyes*.

The show is based on the film *A Private Function*, written by Alan Bennett and starring Michael Palin and Maggie Smith. It's a musical romp set around the impending wedding celebrations of young Princess Elizabeth to the dashing Philip Mountbatten in 1947. But these are desperate times where rationing is even worse than it had been in the war – and desperate times call for desperate measures!

Concept Players are regular visitors to the Paget Rooms and have been entertaining and intriguing audiences for over a quarter of a century. Recent productions such as last year's *My Fair Lady* and *She Loves Me* show off their wonderful attention to detail and just how diverse and imaginative their productions can be.

Paul Buckle and Cat Bailie as Gilbert and Joyce Chilvers, who are about to get to grips with a real life Betty!

Betty Blue Eyes opens at the Paget Rooms, Victoria Road, Penarth on Thursday, March 26 to 28t; box office: 029 2070 8037 or online at www.concept-players.com. All performances are at 7:30pm and tickets cost £13. For further information contact: Ruairidh MacLeod Lyon on (029) 2070 8037; publicity@concept-players.com.

NEW RETIREMENT APARTMENTS FOR SALE IN COWBRIDGE

Join us for our Antiques Valuation Event

We would be delighted if you could join us and the team from J Rogers Jones Co for valuations, a glass of fizz and the opportunity to view our show apartments.

Join us on **Thursday 19th March** between 11am and 2pm.

Make the first move towards Churchill Retirement Living today – you'll be surprised how easy it can be.

DE CLARE LODGE Westgate - Open Tues to Sat - 10am to 5pm.
RSVP TODAY TO CONFIRM YOUR ATTENDANCE

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West Street, Llantwit Major
5 Bedrooms
Extended. Conservatory
Superb West End Location
£440,000 D57

Whitewell Drive, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Conservatory
Superb Presentation
£337,000 D60

St Donates, Llantwit Major
3 bedrooms
3 bathrooms
Period Home
£495,000 G15

St John's View , St Athan
4 Bedrooms
Driveway. Garage
Quiet Location
£309,950 B84

Llantwit Garden Close, St Athan
Semi detached home
3 Beds
No Chain
£199,950 D66

Clive Road, St Athan
3 Bedrooms
Kitchen/Diner
Outskirts of Development
£114,950

Fairfield Rise, Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
Double Driveway
Rarely Available
£155,950 D56

Berry Court, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
No Forward Chain
Kitchen/Diner
£120,950

Fairfield Crescent, Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
Conservatory. Garage
Superbly Presented
£293,950 D62

The Willows, St Athan
2 Bedrooms
No Forward Chain
Ground Floor Flat
£99,950 C76

Turkey Street, Llantwit Major
3 Double Bedrooms
Show Home Standard
Extended. 1 Acre Plot.
£795,000 D64

Methodist Lane , Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Garage. Driveway
Rarely Available.
£425,000

Flush Meadow, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
Garage. Driveway
Views over Paddock
£365,000 E54

Boverton Brook , Boverton
4 Bedrooms
Conservatory
En-Suite
£360,000 D58

Sunderland House , St Athan
4 Bedrooms
Double Garage
Impressive Driveway
£365,000 C72

Gildas Close, Llantwit Major
3 Beds. 2 Recps.
Extended. En-Suite.
No Chain. GCH Combi.
£219,950 D68

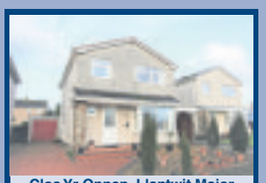
Newbarn Holdings, Flemingston
3 Bedrooms
1 Acre of Land
Double Garage
£410,000 E42

Pantycelyn Place, St Athan
2 Bedrooms
Driveway. No Chain
Superb Presentation
£161,450 D64

Monmouth Way , Llantwit Major
4 Bedrooms
3 Bathrooms
130' Rear Garden
£320,000 D65

Boverton Road, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
130' Garden
Impressive Driveway
£385,000 C69

Heol Y Fro, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms
Conservatory
No Forward Chain
£169,950 D66



Clos Yr Onnen, Llantwit Major
3 Bedrooms
No Forward Chain
Spacious Family Home
£287,500 C80

Manor Park, Llantwit Major
2 Bedrooms
Conservatory
Garage
£210,000 D63

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Lets!

Smeaton Close, Rhoose
4 Bedroom House
Semi Detached
Master Bedroom With En Suite
Garage With Driveway
Council Tax Band C. EPC C75. £900pcm

Y Rhodfa, Barry
One Bedroom 1st Floor Apartment
Fitted Kitchen with Oven and Hob
Balcony
Council Tax Band C. EPC C80. £600pcm

Llys Dwynwen, Llantwit Major
Two Bedrooms
Downstairs WC
Driveway Parking
Enclosed Rear Garden
Council Tax Band C. EPC D66. £625pcm

Picton Road, Rhoose
Three Bedroom House
Large Garden
Modern Throughout
Garage And Driveway
Council Tax Band D. EPC D62. £795pcm.

Broad Close, Barry
Two Double Bedroom Flat
Open Plan Kitchen / Living Room
Modern Bathroom
Council Tax Band C. EPC D56. £625pcm

High Street, Barry
First Floor Maisonette
Two Double Bedrooms
Modern Kitchen
Shower
Council Tax Band B. EPC C74. £575pcm

Cilgant Y Meillion, Rhoose
Four Bedroom Detached House
En suite To Master
Downstairs WC
Council Tax Band E. EPC D67. £995pcm

Heol Y Dryw , Rhoose
Three Bedroom House
En Suite To Master Bedroom
Enclosed Rear Garden
Allocated Parking
Council Tax Band D , £795pcm

Cilgant Y Meillion, Rhoose Point
Four Bedrooms
Three Reception Rooms
En-Suite Shower Room
Council Tax Band F. EPC C72. £995pcm

Picton Road , Rhoose
Three Bedroom House
Kitchen / Dinner
Shower Over The Bath
Garage With Driveway
Council Tax Band D. £750pcm

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To apply call the hotline, e-mail us at HOMES4U@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk or apply in writing to:
Vale of Glamorgan Council
Environment and Housing
Civic Offices, Holton Road
Barry CF63 4RU
www.valeofglamorgan.gov.uk

APPLICATION DEADLINE: 11TH MARCH 2020

All Homes4U properties have double glazing and central heating unless otherwise stated and will be allocated to the maximum occupancy.

It may take longer to rehouse you if you are awarded medical priority as there is a shortage of accessible and adapted homes in the Vale.

CAMROSE COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 203834

• Three bed house

Rent £119.53 per week inc water

CWM PARC, BARRY (NO PETS)

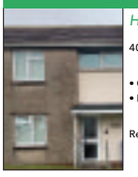
H4U reference 206381

60+ Pref to apps with the need for priority

• One bed flat
• Ground floor
• Step in Shower
• Warden

Rent £121.61 0per week inc water/warden

HARLECH GARDENS, BARRY (NO PETS)



H4U reference 211300

40+

• One bed flat
• First floor (no lift)

Rent £102.26 per week inc water

MERTHYR DYFAN ROAD, BARRY

H4U reference 216271

• Three bed house

Rent £119.04 per week inc water

TY FFYNNON, BARRY

H4U reference 226666

• Two bed flat
• Ground floor

Rent £101.02 per week inc water

GLEBE STREET, PENARTH (NO PETS)

H4U reference 239637

55+

• One bed flat
• First floor (no lift)

Rent £107.20 per week inc water

ST LUKES AVENUE, PENARTH (NO PETS)

H4U reference 245222

• Two bed flat
• Ground floor

Rent £104.33 per week inc water

WINDSOR CLOSE, LLANTWIT MAJOR

Readvertised

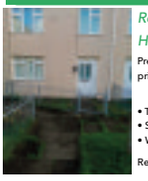
H4U reference 236740

Pref to applicants with a medical priority

• Three bed parlour house
• Downstairs wetroom/bedroom
• Three bedrooms upstairs

Rent £123.20 per week inc water

HATHAWAY PLACE, BARRY



Readvertised

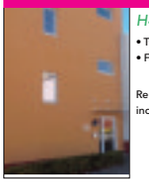
H4U reference 211594

Pref to applicants with a medical priority

• Three bed house
• Stairlift
• Wetroom

Rent £121.48 per week inc water

THE BEACONS, PENARTH



H4U reference 196926

• Two bed flat
• First floor (no lift)

Rent £109.81 per week inc s/c to increase to £124.99 in April

TREM ELAI, PENARTH

H4U reference 269606

Pref to larger families

• Four bed house

Rent £145.42 per week inc s/c - to increase to £161.82 in April

RHUDDLAN WAY, DINAS POWYS

H4U reference 269797

• Three bed house

Rent £118.16 per week inc s/c- to increase to £121.87 in April

HEOL FINCH, BARRY

H4U reference 269589

• Two bed flat
• Second floor (no lift)

Rent £111.11 per week

OAK COURT, PENARTH

H4U reference 1082877

55+ (50 with medical need)

• Studio flat
• First floor (lift)
• P/T Scheme Manager
• Alarm System

Rent £106.76 per week

BUTTLEE COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 114112

• One bed flat
• Lower ground floor (no lift)

Rent £96.34 per week

ARCHER COURT, BARRY (NO PETS)

H4U reference 269802

55+ Pref to apps with a medical priority

• One bed flat
• Ground floor
• Level Access Shower
• Communal entrance/garden
• Parking

Rent £93.59 per week inc service charge

DUNLIN COURT, BARRY

H4U reference 1107308

• Three bed maisonette
• No Garden
• Parking

Rent £107.67 per week inc service charge

TY'R GYFRAITH, BARRY (NO PETS)

H4U reference 269814

No children under 16 due to planning restrictions

• Two bed flat
• Third floor (lift)

Rent £114.60 per week inc service charge

RECTORY ROAD, BARRY

H4U reference 269591

• One bed flat
• Ground floor

Rent £102.26 per week inc service charge

LLYS YR ORSAF, STATION STREET, BARRY

Hafod Housing Association together with the Vale of Glamorgan Council announces the development of Llys Yr Orsaf, Barry.
Bids are invited from Homes4U members. A sensitive let policy applies to this scheme. Regret no pets in the flats. 15 x 1 bed
2 person flats £89.43 + service charge (to be confirmed). 6 x 2 bed 3 person flats £99.36 + service charge (to be confirmed).
Level access entrance via ramp
269826 - 5 X 1 bed ground floor flat with level access shower
269838 - 2 X 2 bed ground floor flat with level access shower
269840 - 5 X 1 bed first floor flat with standard bathroom
269852 - 2 X 2 bed first floor flat with standard bathroom
269864 - 5 X 1 bed second floor flat with standard bathroom
269876 - 5 X 2 bed second floor flat with standard bathroom

The following restrictions are designed to encourage a sensitive and responsible let in order to promote sustainability, whilst also addressing the diverse housing needs of people within the town of Barry and the surrounding area.
Priority will be given for applicants with excellent tenancy history for a minimum of 6 months.

No outstanding rent arrears and consistent record of managing rent payments. No allocation will be made to applicants where there is a record of persistent ASB over the last 2 years, unacceptable behaviour includes (but not limited to) neighbour nuisance, harassment, criminal offences, recurrent substance misuse and making threats or actual violence against

It is proposed that the above criteria be applied to all lettings in order to promote sustainability within the flats. It is also proposed that these criteria will apply to any voids occurring within the first 12 months of occupation.

All applicants will be subject to a verification interview prior to any offer being made. All offers of tenancy will be subject to satisfactory references.

Applicants with no previous social housing tenancy or a previous failed social housing tenancy will be required to attend the Tenancy Ready workshop.

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Expressions of interest are invited for the following developments and you will need to be a member of Homes4u in order to be considered. A local lettings policy applies to all. Allocations are based on highest priority connection to the area, then banding and date. You will need to ring the Contact Centre on 01446 700111 in order to express your interest and you will be asked a series of questions regarding your local connection to the area and you will need to provide full details.

UNITED WELSH HOUSING ASSOCIATION

GWERN CLOSE, CULVERHOUSE CROSS

1) 1 x 4 bed house. Rent £138.18 per week inc s/c (subject to change in April)

You must be a HOMES4U member to apply for any of the rented homes.
When bidding for more than one property you will be asked to state your order of preference.
All descriptions and other details are given in good faith and are believed to be correct but any potential tenant should satisfy themselves as to their correctness.

Councillor launches bid to become crime czar

Carolyn Webster, a Bridgend councillor, is hoping to become Police and Crime Commissioner.

WELSH Conservatives have selected their candidate for the South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

Carolyn Webster said that if elected, she would be a strong voice for the South Wales force and for the people it serves.

She said: "Having friends in the police, I know how tough the job can be. I also know how much the public rely on the police – and I back them fully in being able to do their job with all the resources they need."

Ms Webster, who is a Bridgend councillor, says safer streets would be a priority, along with delivering neighbourhood policing programmes with a focus on the victim.

Anti-social behaviour would be another focus for Carolyn. She said: "Anti-social behaviour is a scourge. It blights lives and we absolutely need to crack down on it."

Carolyn would also back a new plan of action to deliver on rural crime.

A seasoned campaigner, Carolyn stood for the Cardiff West seat in last year's Parliamentary elections.

Until recently, Carolyn was Treasurer of the Bridgend branch of the National Autistic Society, and remains a board member of Bridgend YMCA.

The election is on May 7.

Small space? A patio garden might be the answer

IT'S possible to create an attractive garden in the smallest of spaces that won't break the bank, by choosing the right plants and by making the most of every available surface, whether you've got a patio, balcony or just a window ledge.

Perhaps the easiest and cheapest way to give your patio a quick makeover is to use seasonal bedding plants to provide some instant colour.

Whether you go for pansies or old-fashioned begonias, robust geraniums with their distinctive scent or sweet busy Lizzies you can get an easy pop of colour with a good selection of plants and pots.

Small trees, shrubs and just about any other plant can be grown in pots on a patio. Where space is really tight, under-plant larger specimens with low-growing plants to really make the most of every available centimetre.

For instance, trailing nasturtiums, herbs or fast-growing leafy salads look great when planted around the base of a containerised standard tree.

Don't forget that you can always go up as well … so take advantage of your vertical space.

There are many clever growing kits available that allow you to grow flowers and edibles on walls and fences – which add greenery and texture to your outside space.

Embrace the natural style and elements. Cottage gardens have classic appeal and are easy to re-create by using old materials and soft, romantic planting.

Rustic, unfinished wood, warm pebbles and lightly distressed brickwork all work together to provide a natural, unfussy aesthetic.

A weathered shabby chic bench surrounded by planted up pots will provide a comfortable place to sit and relax; and if your patio is partly shaded then think about plants that are happy in those conditions such as hydrangeas, violas and ferns.

The joy about container growing is that you can move plants around so that your garden is a constantly changing canvas and works with the seasons.

As spring gets underway, usually by mid-March, the more frequent sunny days provide the opportunity for an increasing range of gardening tasks.

It's time to get busy preparing seed beds, sowing seed, cutting back winter shrubs and generally tidying up around the garden.

Jobs for this month as recommended by the RHS should include: Protect new spring shoots from slugs; plant shallots, onions and early potatoes; plant summer flowering bulbs; lift and divide clumps of perennials; top dress containers with fresh compost; mow the lawn on dry days; cut back dogwood and willow grown for winter stems; hoe and mulch weeds to keep them under control early; start feeding fish and using the pond fountain; prune bushes and climbing roses.

Sarah Milne

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GLAMORGAN Voluntary Services (GVS) offers a range of training courses and briefing sessions, which are charged at reasonable rates; those on offer at the moment include the following.

Being a Trustee - The Essentials, How to organise and run your AGM, Introduction to Data Protection; Recruiting, Selecting and Managing Volunteers, Get Ready for Grant Funding and Emergency First Aid at Work (EFAW) 1 day course, to name a few.

GVS can also design courses specific to your needs and deliver them to a team on a mutually agreed date. If you would like to find out more about the courses we currently have available, see our website's training page – www.gvs.wales/support-for-groups/gvs-training.

To book the sessions visit Eventbrite www.eventbrite.com/o/gvs-glamorgan-voluntary-services-15179400181 or contact GVS.

Do you have any memories or photographs of VE Day?

The Glamorgan Gem is publishing a souvenir pull-out to mark the 75th anniversary in May and would love to hear your stories.

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Over £18m compensation paid to farmers

THE amount of Bovine TB compensation paid to Welsh farmers has risen by an alarming 15% in just 12 months and now stands at over £18.2m, according to new figures uncovered by the Welsh Conservatives.

According to a Written Assembly Question (WAQ) by Andrew RT Davies AM, £18.24m was paid in compensation to farmers in 2018/19 as a result of incidences of Bovine TB. In 2017/18, £15.9m was paid out to Welsh farmers.

Over the past five years, compensation to Welsh farmers totals just under £74m.

Commenting on the figures, Shadow Rural Affairs Minister, Andrew RT Davies AM, said they were further evidence of the Labour Welsh Government's failure to listen to the farming community and implement an effective strategy to eradicate Bovine TB.

He said: "These figures highlight the Welsh Labour Government's spectacular failure to tackle and eradicate Bovine TB, as well as the devastating impact that this disease continues to have on farming communities.

"Compensation pay-outs are spiralling, and the costs of administering the wider scheme are also going upwards. The action and measures Labour has implemented to date are letting down the farming community and wildlife population in Wales, and a lasting solution is overdue.

"As Welsh Conservatives, we have long called for a comprehensive, scientifically-led programme of TB eradication as it's clearly not sustainable to preside over such an ever-increasing compensation bill.

"Labour ministers must now listen to the farming industry and change course as Bovine TB is doing irreparable harm to agriculture and our rural communities – financially and emotionally – and decisive action from the government is now required."

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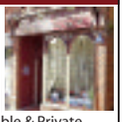

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Ty Newydd Road, Barry 01446 421212 • 02920 705555.

We offer a professional, personal and caring service at your time of need. Your loved ones will remain at our centrally located premises in Barry until the funeral takes place.

We offer a 24-hour service where your call is answered by one of our staff; not a call centre outside of the region.

Our professionally qualified staff will help you structure the send off that your loved one deserves.

• Competitive pricing structure • Funeral plans available

www.parkfunerals.co.uk

Advertisers please note: to appear in the following week's edition, Telephone 01446 774484. email: sales@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

To advertise your situations vacant, family notices, birthdays, anniversaries, etc, call Sue on 01446 774484

Family Notices

COLBOURNE
Anthony

Peacefully on 27th February 2020 at University Hospital of Wales, Cardiff, Tony, aged 87 years. Beloved husband of the late Dilys, much loved dad of Linda, John and Angela, a loved grandfather and great-grandfather.

Tony will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams funeralcare until the service in the Chapel of Rest on Friday, 13th March at 10.30am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if so desired, for Ty Hafan or Coast Watch c/o the funeral director.

FOGG
Diane

Suddenly at home on 21st February, aged 67 years.

Diane will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at Robert D. Johnson Funeral Directors, 29 Holton Road, Barry. A service to celebrate Diane's life will be held at the Cardiff & Vale crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Tuesday, 10th March at 1pm.

Family flowers only by request, donations in memory of Diane can be made at the service to the Dogs Trust.

For all enquiries please telephone 01446 733844.

THOMAS
Julie

Suddenly on 15th February, Julie of Rhoose Road, beloved wife of the late Ron, loving mum to Nichola, Claire, Mark, Anne, Becci and Dean, loving Nannie to Luke, Jack, Caitlin, Rian, Harry, Bethan and Eleni, great-granmother to Lilly, sadly passed away at home.

Now resting at the funeral home of W. James and Sons, Fonmon. Funeral to be held Wednesday, 11th March service and cremation 12 noon at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Family flowers only, Donation in lieu, if desired, to British Heart Foundation, Diabetes UK or Noahs Ark Childrens Hospital Charity .

WILSON
Brenda Jessie (*née* Golding)

Slipped away peacefully in her sleep on 27th February 2020 at Llandough Hospital, aged 92 years. Brenda was the loving wife of James for 65 years. Much loved sister to Raymond and sister-in-law Ginny. Loving aunty to all her nephews and nieces and sadly missed.

Her passing marks an end of an era.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Tuesday, 17th March at 2pm .

Brenda loved her flowers and your tributes would be most welcome, please send to the funeral home. A memorial wake will be held at Bryn Hill Golf Club, following the funeral service and we look forward to your attendance.

PRITCHARD
Robert 'Rob'

Suddenly on 21st February 2020 at University Hospital of Wales surrounded by his family. Beloved and adored husband of Julie. Cherished dad to Tom and Olivia and father-in-law to Helen and Chris. Wonderful 'Dada' to Alex. Much loved son to Mollie and the late Hugh, and much loved brother to Dai, Evan and Anny.

Rob will be greatly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service on Thursday, 12th March at 2pm at A.G. Adams Chapel, Barry, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, in memory of Rob, may be made to Welsh Air Ambulance, Welsh Ambulance Service and UHW Critical Care Unit.

The family wish to give their heartfelt thanks to the Welsh Air Ambulance, Welsh Ambulance Service, all the staff at UHW Critical Care Unit and the Organ Donation Team at UHW for the tremendous support and care given to Rob and the family.

BROWN
Robert Charles

Robert ('Rob') passed away very peacefully on 19th February 2020 at Holme Tower, Penarth, aged 69 years. The much loved husband of Penny and loving father of Sarah and David, and daughter-in-law Rebecca.

Rob will be missed immensely by them, the families of his brother Paul and sister-in-law Jan, and by his many friends.

The funeral will be held at Cardiff and Vale Crematorium, Port Road, Barry, CF62 9PX on Monday, 9th March at 12 noon.

Family flowers only please; donations in lieu may be made to www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/robert-charles-brown

FYFE
Robert

Passed on 8th February 2020 at Holme Towers. Robert will be sadly missed by Janet, Andrew and Huw, and will be greatly missed by all of his family and friends.

The service will be held on Monday, 16th March at 1pm at St Illtud's Church, Llantwit Major, followed by burial at Boverton Cemetary.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers in memory of Robert, can be made to Marie Curie Hospice, Cardiff & The Vale (Holme Towers).

LANCASTER
Roger

Suddenly on 17th February at Llandough Hospital after a short illness. Roger a loving husband to Glynis, a much loved father, a loving Pop and also a great friend to many.

Resting at Robert D Johnson Funeral Directors, 29 Holton Road, Barry. A service to celebrate Rogers life will be held at Cardiff & Vale Crematorium, Port Road, Barry on Tuesday, 10th March at 12 noon.

Family flowers only by request. Donations in memory of Roger can be made at the service to the Welsh Air Ambulance.

Jeans and trainers are acceptable.

For all enquiries please telephone 01446 733844.

MADDOX
Thomas Ogwyn (Gwyn)

Former Manager of Porthkerry Leisure Park

Peacefully at home on 25th February 2020 with his loving family by his side, aged 95 years 'young'. Devoted husband and soulmate of Glenda, greatly loved father of Keith & Russell and loving stepdad of Kevin, Keiron & Kathryn. Father-in-law to Christine, Sharon, Linda & Christopher and much loved brother of Morfydd (Moll). Precious grampie to Helen, Rhian & Ian, Rhys & Kirsty, Sam, Eiddan,Tia and Josh and great-grampie to Evan & Alys and Finlay & Ivy.

Resting at W. James & Son, Fonmon until the Celebration of his life at Cardiff & Vale Crematorium, Barry on Friday, 13th March at 11am.

Family flowers only please. Donations in lieu of flowers may be forwarded to the funeral director in aid of Ty Hafan or collection on the day.

Good Night, God Bless - Forever in our Hearts.

SPARKES
Diane Mary (*née* John)

We will be saying goodbye to Diane on Friday, each in our own way, at her funeral service at A.G. Adams, Gladstone Road, Barry on Friday, 6th March at 10am.

Diane sadly passed away peacefully on Saturday, 8th February after a serious illness, aged just 60 years, her life cut tragically short, but she will always be in our hearts.

Diane was, is and always will be, my beloved younger sister - and loving sister-in-law to Liz - as well as a doting auntie to her nephews Evan, Will and Luke. We will all hold a treasured memory of her with us always.

We hope that all her family and friends will be able to join us at Adams' on Friday to say a final farewell to Di, as we give thanksgiving for her life with us all.

Rest in peace, Di, with all our love from your loving John family: brother Mark, sister-in-law Liz, nephews Evan, Will & Luke. We love you ... xxx

SUTTON
June (*née* Jefferies)

Peacefully at Bella Vista Nursing Home on 27th February 2020, June aged 86 years. Beloved wife of Ken, much loved mum of Jeff.

June will be missed by all her family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service in the Chapel of Rest on Thursday, 19th March at 11am, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu, if desired, for The Alzheimer's Society will be collected on the day.

HANCOCK
David

David passed away at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend with his family by his bedside on Monday, 24th February 2020.

He will be sadly missed by his loving wife, children and grandchildren.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Monday, 16th March, service and cremation 12 noon at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Prostate Cancer UK c/o the funeral Director.

Acknowledgements

LEVICS
Len

Sharon and family would like to thank everyone that attended Len's funeral and for the kindness and support given at this sad time.

Special thanks to Robert D Johnson, Lisa and all the team for the excellent service and compassion given to the family.

BARTLETT
Thelma

Thelma's family would like to thank everyone who attended her funeral and for all the donations made to Marie Curie in her memory, also to the Rev John James who officiated at the service.

Sincere thanks to the staff at UHW and to James Summers Funeralcare Penarth for their care, kindness and support.

STONE
Jeffrey

Margaret would like to thank family and friends who attended Jeff's funeral and the numerous cards and flowers she received at this sad time.

Special thanks to Jeff's cousin Paul (Claude) for his support and kindness on the day. Also, thank you to the District Nurses and the carers from Cherish Cymru who looked after Jeff for the past 4 years.

Thank you all, Margaret.

Birthdays

Nancy Davidge

Happy 97th Birthday

on 6th March 2020

Have a Great Day

Love from,

Gaye, Gary, Walkiria,

Jasmine, Naomi & Nicole

xxx

The best way to fill your local recruitment position is through your local paper.

Contact The Gem for competitive prices

01446 774484

In Memory

In Memory

O'CONNOR

Alesha-Marie

7th March 2015

Some might say they can't believe it's been 5 years.

Unfortunately, we know through our river of tears, although we know we will see you again, it still doesn't ease the sadness and pain.

Miss you loads Leshy-Lou.

Love Mum and Dad *xxx*

In Memory

O'CONNOR

Alesha-Marie

Alesha, another year without you.

The memories of us together helps me carry on.

I miss and love you so much, I know Rhodri is by your side and taking care of you.

God Bless

Your Loving Nan xxx

In Memory

O'CONNOR

Alesha-Marie

Another year has passed Alesha since you were taken from us.

Our memories will be in our hearts forever.

Miss you loads.

Aunty Wendy & Uncle Joe

xxx

In Memory

O'CONNOR

Alesha-Marie

5 years have passed and not a day goes by without us thinking of you.

You are missed each and every day, for you were someone special, who meant more than words can say.

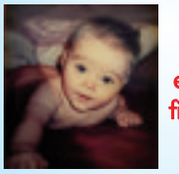
Love and miss you loads

Uncle Steve & Babs xxx

Birthdays

Happy 18th Birthday!

Luke Bennett



Have fun enjoying your first legal pint!

on 7th March

Love Mum, Tony & Adam

xxx

To advertise your situations vacant, family notices, birthdays, anniversaries, etc, call Sue on 01446 774484

Captain Chris Watson prepares to drive in at Southerndown Golf Club, watched by members of the society.

Captain Chris starts year in office for farmers' society

THE Captain's 'drive in' for Chris Watson, recently installed captain of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society took place last Thursday at Southerndown Golf Club when 34 members assembled at the first tee to witness the traditional opening shot of the new golfing season.

Despite the pressure of being surrounded by interested spectators a very impressive opening drive of 157 yards set the tone for what members hope will be an enjoyable year for their new captain.

Playing for the Southerndown Cup and a range of prizes supplied by sponsors Clive Edwards (Construction) Ltd ensured a keenly contested competition with just five points separating the top five competitors at the close of play.

Retired veterinary surgeon Mike King, following a period of absence from visiting the winner's enclosure and despite only accumulating 10 stableford points on the front nine, returned a winning score of 30 points to finish in first place and receive the Southerndown Cup from Clive Edwards.

Runner-up with 29 points was handicap secretary Tim Jarvis followed by Rob Price who finished with 28 points. Arwyn John who recently celebrated his 87th birthday finished in fourth place with 27 points and Gwyn Thomas with 25 points finished in fifth place.

Nearest the pin on the Watts & Morgan sponsored par-3 holes were Mike King, Martyn David, Keith Roberts and veteran member John Davies who together with his wife Janet recently celebrated their Diamond wedding.

Keith Gibson hit the longest drive down the 18th fairway to collect the Picketston Poultry sponsored prize and John Thomas returned home with the Llanerch Vineyard sponsored prize, when correctly guessing just 36 balls would remain out in the thick gorse associated with this course.

This raised £75 for the Llantwit Major Surf Life Saving Club.

Cowbridge resident Reg Davies was rewarded with a bottle of wine when correctly guessing the distance of the captain's opening drive.

The society's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 28 at The Rolls of Monmouth Golf Club sponsored by JCP solicitors of Cowbridge.

TM

Fixture pile up looms for Barry RFC

YET again, Barry RFC lost a league fixture to the weather and a waterlogged pitch, this time against Rumney.

This now means that the season has been extended from April 18 to May 25 as clubs strive to get their season completed.

With the next two weekends taken up by Six Nations matches – and the following weeks's fixture against Rhydfelin having to be rescheduled due to Cup commitments, Barry will not be in action until March 28, when they are due to travel to Rumney.

After that there will still be seven fixtures to be played before the deadline date.

The club lottery rolls over to £1,550 this week after Saturday's numbers, 03, 07, 08 and 12 failed to find a winner.

One ticket matched three numbers to claim £10.

AJ

Barry and District Men's Skittles League

THE latest results from the Barry and District Men's Skittles league are as follows:

DIVISION 1:

Geest 270 (J Paget 30), Blue Monkey 285 (A Penberthy, N Stokes 29); Bunker Boys 262 (D Hewitson 27), Billy Whizz 274 (A O'Brien 31); Posties 288 (D Gallimore, M Gallimore 28), Merrymen 292 (S Barnsley 28); Park Lads 272 (M Stafford 29), 49ers 264 (M Pope 30); Willie Wombles 307 (J Norris 32), Sea View 282 (M Robins 30); British Rail 273 (B Smith 27), Cavaliers 286 (M Ryan 30).

League: Merrymen 30, 49ers 24, Blue Monkey 22, Billy Whizz 22, Cavaliers 22, Willie Wombles 20, Bunker Boys 13, Park Lads 11, Posties 10, Sea View 10, British Rail 8, Geest 8

DIVISION 2:

Mighty Dockers 237 (K Enticott 25), Barry Park B 225 (A Chick 24); H Bells 281 (B Howcroft 31), Tynny Lads 309 (S Williams, A Hillard 33); Park Rangers 280 (P Murphy 29), Exiles 255 (F Coughlan, A Ladner, K Tudor, A Collins 24); KP Rejects 355 (T Dawe 35), Colcot Boys 349 (R Brown 37); Witchill Poachers 342 (G Davies 35), Hairy Lemons 332 (D Rourke 35).

League: Mighty Dockers 26, Tynny Lads 24, Cannon Balls 22, KP Rejects 22, H Bells 20, Park Rangers 17, Barry Park B 15, Colcot Boys 14, Witchill Poachers 13, Hairy Lemons 13, Castle Boys 8, Exiles 4.

DIVISION 3:

Cocoa Nuts 266 (Math James 33), Witchill Nomads 233 (H Burrows 26); Alternatives 270 (J Howell 29), Billy Flyers 280 (M Giovanelli 29); Billy Bluebirds 256 (R Prangley 28), Royalists 264 (C Iannucci 31); Ex Servicemen 256 (P Swannick 30), Abercrete 247 (J Arnold, J Newton 25).

League: Alternatives 20, Cocoa Nuts 19, Ex Servicemen 18, BP Breakaways 18, Billy Flyers 18, Royalists 17, Billy Bluebirds 16; Witchill Nomads 7, C.U.D. 3, Abercrete 2.

View all results and league tables at www.barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

St Mary's Golf Club seniors beat the weather

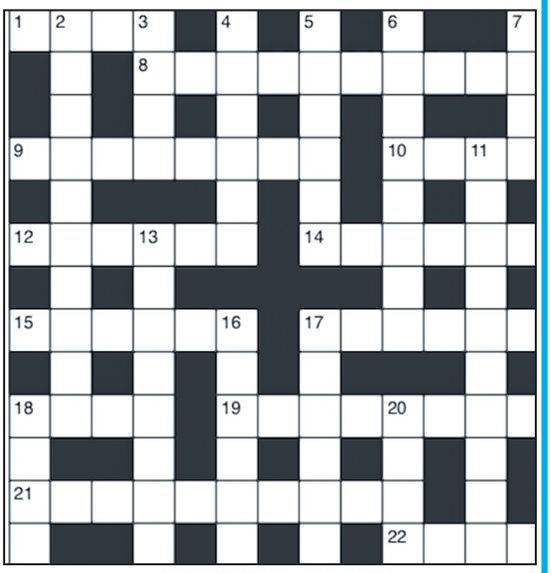
AFTER more than a week of 'rain stopped play', a single day's break in the weather encouraged 14 members of St Mary's Senior section onto the rain-soaked fairways for a Pairs Better Ball stableford competition.

Given the course conditions, it was decided to limit play to a shortened course of just 12 holes. Despite the sodden ground and the difficulty of finding plugged balls even on the fairways, the sun made a very rare appearance and the players enjoyed the morning's play. None more so than the winning pair, Mike Tayler and Norman Lloyd who shot a remarkable nine better than par score of 33 points over the 12 holes.

Sharing 28 points, Gordon Martin and partner Phil Hatton tied for second place with the pairing of Steve Phillips and John Mabbett. The highlight of the day came at the 150 yard par three second hole where Tayler sank a 20 foot putt to make birdie.

NL

THE GEM CROSSWORD



CRYPTIC CLUES

Across

1. Nonplussed when given excellent service (4)
8. Bad-tempered, like one with a tendency to poor health? (3-7)
9. Headquarters dance is a popular attraction in U.S. (8)
10. Tree used in building (4)
12. I'd returned with transport for furniture (6)
14. Cathy's upset by boats (6)
15. They take orders for motors after six (6)
17. One once to be seen in Darjeeling and Hindustan (6)
18. Andy Edwards partly changed colour (4)
19. Describing what remains from air duels (8)
21. From which people watch splendid resistance (10)
22. Two grenadiers hiding a monster (4)

Down

2. What the prospective international footballer has! (10)
3. Gets a good shake-up in the game (4)
4 Fishing equipment - certainly not sinkers (6)
5. Confer and talk in France before the end of the day (6)
6. He keeps the local tax-collector (8)
7. Sounds like the image of lazy people (4)
11. He produces things for those who want to strike (10)
13. Doesn't persist with a veto on university men (8)
16. Pressure exerted on southern lock (6)
17. Power worker - or dental anaesthetist? (6)
18. Eastern deity making a comeback as Italian dignitary (4)
20. Bird no longer seen to perform twice (4)

SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Aced; 8 Ill-natured; 9 Baseball; 10 Lime; 12 Divans; 14 Yachts; 15 Vicars; 17 Gandhi; 18 Dyed; 19 Residual; 21 Grandstand; 22 Ogre.

Down: 2 Capability; 3 Dice; 4 Floats; 5 Parley; 6 Publican; 7 Idle; 11 Matchmaker; 13 Abandons; 16 Stress; 17 Gasman; 18 Doge; 20 Dodo.

Local Isuzu dealers enjoy an award-winning evening in Newcastle

MOTOR dealers Tanners of Cardiff are celebrating after winning the highly-regarded award for 'Best Isuzu Newcomer for 2019' in a ceremony that took place in Newcastle upon Tyne, during a night of magic, comedy and music at the famous Boiler Shop.

The award was given in recognition of the company's outstanding performance and exceptional, Isuzu Brand Professional Owain White was accredited as 'Pick Up Professional' at the ceremony for his hard work after successfully completing the training programme. The Pick-Up Professional accreditation allows staff to become specialists in Pick-Ups and be well-versed in specifying bespoke trucks to meet customers' needs, however unique they may be.

The awards were presented by Isuzu UK managing director, William Brown, Donna Jeffrey, Isuzu dealer training manager and Alan Able, Isuzu head of sales.

William Brown commented: "Congratulations to all the nominated and winning dealers on their amazing achievements. Plus, a huge well done to the Isuzu network on their commitment and efforts to make 2019 a real success for Isuzu. 2020 looks to be even more successful with amazing offers and an exciting new model; it will be a great year for the whole Isuzu family."

Visit www.isuzucardiff.co.uk for more information on the Isuzu D-Max range.

Alan Able, Isuzu head of sales with Owain White and Donna Jeffrey, Isuzu learning and development manager.

Philip and Ryan Tanner, centre, receive the New Dealer of the Year 2019 Award from William Brown, Isuzu UK managing director and Alan Able, Isuzu head of sales.

Over 500 quality cars in one location

DRIVE AWAY IN UNDER 1 HOUR

17 67 FORD EDGE 2.0 TDCI 180 Titanium 5dr 4WD, Ford warranty Dec 2020, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera,

£19995 NO BUYERS FEES

10 10 FORD FIESTA 1.6 Titanium 5dr, alloys, aircon, USB, red

£4295 NO BUYERS FEES

18 68 KIA PICANTO 1.25 X-Line 5dr, Kia warranty Oct 2025, rev cam, 10k, black, full leather

£9795 NO BUYERS FEES

17 67 BMW 320 D M Sport Shadow Edition 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, harman kardon, heated seats, blue, full leather

£15995 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 BMW 330e M Sport 4dr Step Automatic, M Sport + pack, 19"alloys, sat nav, choice, full leather

£15995 NO BUYERS FEES

13 63 ALFA ROMEO MITO 0.9 TB TwinAir 105 Distinctive 3dr, sat nav, 22k, grey, full red leather

£5495 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 AUDI A4 3.0 TDI Quattro S-Line Estate S-Tronic, pan roof, 19"alloys, sat nav, black, full leather

£19995 NO BUYERS FEES

17 67 FIAT 500 1.2 Lounge 3dr, pan roof, alloys, usb, dab, choice

£6295 NO BUYERS FEES

19 69 HYUNDAI KONA 1.6 150kw GDI Hybrid Premium SE 5dr Automatic, Hyundai warranty Oct 2024, sat nav,

£22795 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 HYUNDAI i40 1.7 CRDi Blue Drive Premium 4dr, Hyundai warranty Nov 2021, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 30k, met grey, full leather

£11495 NO BUYERS FEES

19 19 FORD FOCUS 1.5 EcoBlue 120 ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty April 2022, 17"alloys, cruise, privacy glass, 9k,

£15495 NO BUYERS FEES

15 65 BMW 420 D XDrive M Sport Coupe Automatic, 19" alloys, sat nav, 16k, blue, full leather

£16995 NO BUYERS FEES

18 18 DACIA SANDERO STEPWAY 0.9 TCE Ambiance 5dr, Dacia warranty June 2021, Bluetooth, aircon, 10k, white

£7995 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T-GDI GT-Line 5dr Automatic AWD, Kia warranty Nov 2023, sat nav, reverse camera,

£14495 NO BUYERS FEES

17 66 ABARTH 595 1.4 T-Jet 145 3dr, air-con, dab, sat nav, 27k, yellow....**£9995**

18 18 AUDI A3 1.4 TFSI e-tron 5dr S Tronic, Audi warranty April 2021, sat nav, heated seats, choice, half leather/lcantara.**£16995**

18 67 AUDI A3 1.6 TDI 116 S Line 5dr S Tronic, Audi warranty Jan 2021, sat nav, DAB, Bluetooth, 27k, blue, half leather**£17995**

15 15 AUDI A3 2.0 TDI S-Line 4dr, sat nav, comfort pack, cruise, dab, 44k, white, half-leathe....**£13795**

17 17 AUDI A4 2.0 TDI Ultra Sport 4dr S Tronic, auto, sat nav, 17"alloys, cruise, black....**£13495**

15 65 AUDI A6 2.0 TDI Ultra Black Edition 4dr S Tronic, sat nav, 20"alloys, bose, grey, full leather....**£15995**

17 17 AUDI Q2 1.6 TDI Sport 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, 27k, tango red, full Milano leather....**£16995**

16 66 BMW 116d SE 5dr [Nav] Step Automatic, Pro nav, service pack, 19k, platinum silver....**£12995**

17 66 BMW 118d M Sport (nav) 5dr step auto, 18"alloys, DAB, blue....**£14295**

16 66 BMW 225 1.5 XE Sport ACTIVE TOURER 5dr Automatic, 4wd sat nav, heated seats, 22k, white, full leather....**£16495**

16 66 BMW 225xe Luxury 5dr [Nav] Auto, pan roof, sat nav,35k, grey, full leather....**£15995**

16 66 BMW 318d SE 4dr, sat nav, 18"m sport alloys, privacy glass, white....**£10995**

13 13 BMW 320d M Sport 2dr Coupe Automatic, 19"alloys, heated seats, grey, full leather....**£7995**

16 66 BMW 320d Efficient Dynamics Sport Estate Step Auto, sat nav, DAB, grey, full leather....**£13995**

16 66 BMW 320 D M Sport Estate Automatic, heated seats, grey, full leather....**£15795**

17 67 BMW 320 D M Sport Shadow Edition 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, harman kardon, heated seats, blue, full leather....**£15995**

15 65 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, through load, 38k, silver, full leather....**£16795**

17 66 BMW 320d [190] M Sport GT 5dr Step Auto, pan roof, sat nav, advanced parking, 19"alloys, Harman kardon, huge spec, met grey, full leather....**£17995**

16 66 BMW 330d Luxury Estate Step Auto, sat nav, innovation pack, 19"alloys, black, full oyster leather....**£16995**

15 65 BMW 420d [190] M Sport 5dr Gran Coupe[Professional Media] M Sport plus pack, 19"alloys, white....**£14995**

16 66 BMW 420 D XDrive M Sport Gran Coupe Automatic, m sport plus pack, 19"alloys, sat nav, electric glass sunroof, blue, full leather....**£18995**

17 67 BMW 420 D Sport Gran Coupe 5dr (190bhp), BMW warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 20k, black, full leather....**£16995**

17 67 BMW 420d (190) m sport 5dr gran coupe automatic , bmw warranty oct 2020, 19'' alloys, pro media, m sport + pack, Harman kardon, choice , full leather....**£18995**

16 66 BMW 430 D M Sport 2dr Convertible Automatic (258bhp), m sport plus pack, sat nav, 37k, grey, full leather....**£21495**

18 18 BMW 530e M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty June 2021, sat nav, 19"black M sport alloys, 27k, bluestone, full leather....**£24995**

16 66 BMW 520 D M Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather....**£14495**

16 66 BMW 520 D M Sport Estate Automatic, pan roof, 190bhp, sat nav, grey, full leather....**£15495**

17 67 BMW 520 D XDrive SE 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, heated seats, black, full leather....**£18495**

16 66 BMW 640d M Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, 19"alloys, xenons, 29k, blue, full beige leather....**£21995**

17 17 BMW 640d M Sport 2dr Auto, 20"alloys, sunroof, 38k, black, full ivory leather....**£22995**

15 65 BMW X1 2.0 D XDrive X-Line 5dr Automatic (190bhp), sat nav, 18"alloys, 32k, bronze, full leather....**£16495**

16 66 BMW X1 2.0 SDrive D M Sport 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, black, full leather....**£13495**

16 68 BMW X2 sDrive 20i M Sport 5dr Step Auto, BMW warranty Jan 2022, 19"alloys, sat nav, privacy glass, 5k, black .**£23995**

16 65 BMW X4 xDrive20d M Sport 5dr Step Auto, sunroof, pro media, 20"alloys, 46k, black, full leather....**£20995**

15 65 BMW X5 3.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, reverse camera, carbon black, full leather....**£25995**

16 66 BMW X5 3.0 D XDrive M Sport 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, m sport plus pack, 30k, grey, full leather....**£28995**

19 68 FIAT 500 1.2 Pop 3dr Dualogic Auto, Fiat warranty Jan 2022, aircon, Bluetooth, 8k, grey....**£8495**

17 67 FIAT 500X 1.6 E-Torq Pop Star 5dr, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 12k, black....**£9995**

18 18 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDCi 120 Titanium 5dr, Ford warranty June 2021, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, white....**£10295**

13 63 FORD FOCUS 1.0 125 EcoBoost Zetec Navigator Estate, 17"alloys, Bluetooth, silver....**£5495**

17 67 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCi 120 Titanium 5dr, Ford warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, Bluetooth, red....**£9995**

19 68 FORD FOCUS 1.0 EcoBoost 125 ST-Line X 5dr, Ford warranty Feb 2022, sat nav, cruise, heated seats, 7k, black...**£16995**

15 15 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 50k, silver....**£9495**

17 17 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCi Titanium 5dr 2WD, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 37k, red....**£13295**

17 66 FORD ECOSPORT 1.0 EcoBoost 140 Titanium S 5dr, Ford warranty Feb 2020, cruise, Bluetooth, 21k, yellow, half-leather....**£9495**

15 65 FORD FOCUS 1.5 EcoBoost Zetec S 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, white....**£6495**

16 66 FORD S-MAX 2.0 TDCI 180 Titanium Sport 5dr X-Pack (7-Seater), pan roof, sat nav, 33k, black, full leather....**£17495**

17 67 FORD S-MAX 2.0 TDCi 180 Titanium 5dr Powershift (7-Seater) Ford warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, 23k, silver....**£17995**

16 66 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI Blue Drive Premium SE 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, 19"alloys, pan roof, 38k, white, full leather....**£18995**

17 17 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDi Blue Drive Premium 5dr Hyundai warranty July 2022, sat nav, bluetooth, 23k, blue, full leather....**£16995**

19 19 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI Premium 5dr Automatic 4WD (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty April 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 11k, silver, full leather....**£28995**

19 19 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.6 CRDi SE Nav 5dr 2WD, Hyundai warranty May 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 7k, grey, full leather....**£18995**

16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDi Blue Drive Premium 5dr 2WD automatic, Pan, roof, sat nav, Bluetooth, met red,full leather....**£14495**

17 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0d [180] Portfolio 4dr Auto, sunroof,19"alloys, sat nav, 11k, Firenze red, full leather....**£19495**

16 66 JAGUAR F-PACE 2.0d R-Sport 5dr, 22"alloys, pan roof, sat nav, 19k, grey, full two tone leather....**£24995**

16 67 JAGUAR F-PACE 3.0d V6 S 5dr Auto AWD (300bhp), Jaguar warranty Dec 2020, 20"alloys, sat nav, 28k, white, full two tone leather....**£30995**

17 67 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.0 MultiJet Limited 5dr 4WD, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 13k, grey, full leather....**£15995**

18 18 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 CRD MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 12k, choice, full leather....**£16995**

16 66 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Limited Plus 5dr Auto [Start Stop] 20"alloys, sat nav, 23k, grey, full leather....**£21995**

17 67 JEEP RENEGADE 1.6 Multijet Night Eagle II 5dr, Jeep warranty Nov 2020, sat nav, privacy glass, cruise, 29k, white....**£11995**

16 66 JEEP RENEGADE 2.0 MultiJet Limited 5dr Automatic 4WD, heated seats, black, full leather....**£9495**

18 68 KIA CEED 1.4 T GDI ISG Blue Edition 5dr, Kia warranty Dec 2025, sat nav, reverse camera, 8k, blue....**£14995**

18 68 KIA NIRO 1.6 GDI Hybrid 4 5dr DCT Automatic, KIA Warranty until November 2025, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 13k, grey, full leather....**£21495**

15 65 KIA PROCEED 1.6T GDi GT Tech 3dr, (201bhp) Kia warranty Sep 2022, sat nav, white, half leather....**£10795**

17 67 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T GDi GT-Line 5dr 4WD, Kia warranty Nov 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 12k, white, full leather....**£16495**

17 17 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-4 AWD 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, silver, full leather....**£14495**

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13 13 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2 ED4 Pure 5dr, sat nav, tech pack, pan roof, grey **£11995**

15 65 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY SPORT 2.0 TD4 180 HSE Black 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, 28k, black, full leather **£23995**

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 SE Tech 5dr 4WD, sat nav, Bluetooth, 32k, choice, full leather **£19995**

17 17 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 eD4 SE Tech 5dr 2WD, sat nav, privacy glass, 27k, black, full leather **£19995**

16 16 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT 3.0 SDV6 (306) HSE 5dr Automatic 4x4, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, heated and cooled seats, black, full leather **£29995**

18 18 RANGEROVER VELAR 2.0 D240 R-Dynamic S 5dr Auto, Landrover warranty June 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 20"alloys, 16k, black, full leather **£37995**

17 67 LEXUS IS300h Advance 4dr CVT Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 17"alloys, cruise, grey, full leather **£16995**

18 68 MAZDA 3 2.2 D SPORT Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty Sept 2021, sat nav, headup display, reverse camera, black, full leather **£14795**

18 18 MERCEDES A180 D Sport Executive 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, sat nav, cruise, dab, 9k, choice .**£18495**

18 67 MERCEDES A200 D Sport Executive 5dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty March 2021, sat nav, usb, reverse camera, 16k, silver **£15995**

18 68 MERCEDES C200 AMG Line Premium 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, dab, usb, 8k, choice, half-leather **£22995**

18 68 MERCEDES C200 Sport Premium Plus 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 12k, silver, full leather **£22995**

19 19 MERCEDES C200 AMG Line 2dr Convertible 9G-Tronic, Mercedes warranty April 2022, sat nav, xenons, 6k, white, half leather/suede **£27495**

. 17 17 MERCEDES C220 D AMG Line Premium 2dr Coupe Automatic, pan roof, 19"alloys, sat nav, electric heated seats, 28k, white with full leather **£22995**

17 66 MERCEDES C250d Sport Premium Plus Estate Auto, pan roof, sat nav, 33k,blue, full leather **£18995**

19 19 MERCEDES C300 D AMG Line Premium 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty April 2022, sat nav, reverse camera, 1k, choice with half-leather **£28995**

17 17 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Aug 2020, widescreen sat nav, ambient lighting, heated seats, xenons, 20k, choice **£19795**

17 67 MERCEDES E220d AMG Line 2dr Convertible 9G-Tronic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, air scarf, maroon hood, white, half leather/suede **£21495**

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D SE 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 20k, met grey, full leather **£19995**

17 67 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line 5dr Estate 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 13k, half-leather **£21795**

16 66 MERCEDES GLC220d 4Matic Sport Premium 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, met grey, full leather **£21495**

17 67 MERCEDES GLC 220d 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 15k, choice, full leather **£22995**

18 18 MERCEDES GLS350 D 4Matic AMG Line 5dr 9G-Tronic Automatic 7-Seater, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, night pack, Harman kardon, sat nav, pan roof, 13k, white, full leather **£42995**

16 66 MINI COUNTRYMAN 2.0 S D 5dr, chilli pack, heated seats, 18"alloys, 32k, blue **£11995**

16 16 MINI CONVERTIBLE 1.5 2dr, JCW chilli pack, heated seats, reverse camera, 12k, white, half-leather **£12495**

17 67 MINI 1.5 Cooper 2dr Convertible, Chilli Pack, 17"alloys, reverse camera, 27k, Caribbean blue, half leather **£11495**

18 18 MNI 1.5 Cooper D II 3dr (JCW Chili pack) 17"black alloys, cruise, DAB, 23k, red **£12995**

17 67 MITSUBISHI ASX 1.6 3 5dr, Mitsubishi warranty Dec 2020, reverse camera, heated seats, 11k, white **£11995**

19 19 NISSAN MICRA 1.0 IG 71 Acenta Ltd Edition 5dr, Nissan warranty April 2022, Bluetooth, cruise, 8k, met grey **£9795**

16 66 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 dCi N-Connecta 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, white **£8995**

17 67 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI Acenta 5dr, Nissan warranty Oct 2020, cruise, Bluetooth, aux, usb, 14k, blue **£12495**

17 67 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.5 DCI N-Vision 5dr, Nissan warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, pan roof, heated seats, 8k, blue, half-leather **£13995**

16 66 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI 130 N-Connecta 5dr CVT Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, blue **£11495**

16 66 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 dCi N-Vision 5dr, panoramic roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, met green **£12795**

16 66NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 dCi N-Tec 5dr [7 Seat] sat nav, sunroof, black **£12995**

17 67 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr Xtronic Automaic (7-Seater), Nissan warranty Oct 2020, pan roof, cruise, 9k, blue **£14995**

17 67 PEUGEOT 308 SW1.6 BlueHDi 120 Allure Estate, Peugeot warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, pan roof, 38k, grey **£9795**

14 64 PORSCHE MACAN 3.0 TDV6 S 4WD 5dr PDK, Sport design pack, 19"alloys, white, full leather **£26995**

18 68 RENAULT CLIO 0.9 TCE 75 Play 5dr, Renault warranty Dec 2022, cruise, alloys, 8k, white **£8795**

15 65 RENAULT TWINGO 0.9 TCE Dynamique S 5dr, sat nav, rev camera, white **£5495**

17 66 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE 90 Dynamique S 5dr, Renault warranty Feb 2021, sat nav, pdc, privacy glass, 19k, black **£9495**

17 67 RENAULT KADJAR 1.2 TCE Dynamique Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Nov 2021, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 15k, white **£11795**

18 18 RENAULT KADJAR 1.2 TCE Signature Nav 5dr, Renault warranty July 2021, pan roof, 19"alloys, bose, 24k, half leather **£12995**

16 66 RENAULT KADJAR 1.5 DCI Dynamique Nav 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 14k, gold **£10495**

15 65 RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCI GT Line Nav 5dr, sat nav, 18"alloys, Bluetooth, 42k, met red, half-leather **£7995**

17 67 SEAT LEON 1.6 TDI SE Dynamic Technology 5dr DSG Automatic, Seat warranty until December 2020, sat nav, cruise, 8k, grey **£11295**

17 67 SEAT ALHAMBRA 2.0 TDI CR Xcellence [150] 5dr DSG (7-Seater) Seat warranty Jan 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 16k, grey, full leather **£20995**

14 64 SUBARU WRX 2.5 STI Type UK 4dr (300bhp) 4WD, sat nav, cruise, aux, usb, 44k, met blue with half-leather **£15995**

17 17 TOYOTA CH-R 1.8 Hybrid Dynamic S 5dr CVT, sat nav, reverse camera, blue **£18795**

18 18 TOYOTA PRIUS+ 1.8 VVTi Icon TSS 5dr CVT Auto (7-seater) Toyota warranty Aug 2023, reverse camera, Bluetooth, white **£20995**

17 17 VAUXHALL CASCADA 2.0 CDTI 170 Elite 2dr Convertible, 20"alloys, sat nav, reverse camera, white with red roof and full leather **£11995**

15 65 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.6 CDTi ecoFLEX SE 5dr, heated seats, privacy glass, 33k, blue, full leather **£8495**

17 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI Blue Motion Tech GTI 5dr Automatic (220bhp), sat nav, cruise, heated seats, 10k, red **£17995**

15 15 VW GOLF 1.6 TDI 105 Match 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, black **£7495**

16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI GT Edition 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, grey **£13995**

17 67 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI 184 GTD 5dr DSG auto, sat nav, xenons, heated seats, 26K, GREY **£18995**

17 67 VW GOLF 2.0 TDI 184 GTD 5dr, sat nav, apple car play, 39k, grey **£17995**

16 66 VW SCIROCCO 2.0 TDi BlueMotion Tech GT 3dr DSG Automatic, sat nav, 18"black alloys, dab, grey, half-leather **£13795**

17 67 VW PASSAT 1.4 TSI GTE Estate DSG Automatic (215bhp), sat nav, heated seats, 18"alloys, black, half-leather **£17995**

17 67 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI SE 5dr DSG Automatic, VW warranty Dec 2020, sat nav, cruise, dab, 17k, grey **£18795**

19 19 VOLVO V40 1.5 T3 R-Design Edition 5dr Automatic (152bhp), Volvo warranty April 2022, sat nav, pan roof, reverse camera, only 730 miles in black, full leather **£18295**

18 18 VOLVO V40 2.0 T3 152 Momentum Nav Plus 5dr, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 19k, grey **£13995**

17 67 VOLVO S60 2.0 T4 [190] Business Edition Lux 4dr, Volvo warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, 17k, blue **£12995**

14 64 VOLVO XC60 2.0 D4 R-Design 5dr Geartronic, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, 45k, black, half-leather **£14495**

16 16 VOLVO XC60 D4 [190] SE Lux Nav 5dr Geartronic, sat nav, cruise, 31k, white, full leather **£17995**

18 68 VOLVO XC60 2.0 D4 R-Design 5dr Automatic AWD, Volvo warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, 19"alloys, 13k, met red, half-leather **£26995**

16 66 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D Park Lane 5dr, cruise, heated seats, 18"alloys, 31k, grey, full leather

£11995 NO BUYERS FEES

15 15 MERCEDES C250 CDI AMG Sport Edition 2dr Auto [Premium Plus] pan roof, sat nav, 18"alloys, 37k, white,

£12795 NO BUYERS FEES

16 16 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 HSE Dynamic 5dr Auto, pan roof, sat nav, 20"alloys, black,

£21995 NO BUYERS FEES

18 18 MERCEDES A180d AMG Line Executive 5dr Auto, Mercedes warranty Aug 2021, sat nav, heated seats, silver,

£17995 NO BUYERS FEES

18 68 PEUEGOT 3008 1.5 BlueHDi Allure 5dr, Peugeot warranty Dec 2021, apple car play, sat nav, grey

£16995 NO BUYERS FEES

16 66 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER 3.0 TDV6 Vogue SE 4dr Auto, 20"alloys, panoramic roof, contrast roof, 20k, silver,

£41995 NO BUYERS FEES

17 67 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.4T Active 5dr, Vauxhall warranty Jan 2021, 17"alloys, cruise, 18k, white

£11495 NO BUYERS FEES

18 68 MERCEDES E220 D AMG Line Premium 2dr Coupe 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty Oct 2021,

£28995 NO BUYERS FEES

17 67 SKODA SUPERB 2.0 TDI CR 190 Sport Line 5dr DSG, Skoda warranty Jan 2021, apple car play, 19"alloys, 7k,

£18995 NO BUYERS FEES

14 63 SKODA FABIA 1.6 TDI CR 105 Monte Carlo 5dr, 17"alloys, privacy glass, silver

£5995 NO BUYERS FEES

12 12 MAZDA 3 1.6 Sport 5dr, heated seats, privacy glass, grey

£4495 NO BUYERS FEES

14 64 MERCEDES A180 CDI Sport 5dr, 17"alloys, Bluetooth, 48k, red, half leather

£10495 NO BUYERS FEES

18 18 MERCEDES C200 Sport Premium 4dr 9G-Tronic Automatic, Mercedes warranty May 2021, pan roof, sat nav,

£18995 NO BUYERS FEES

17 17 VW GOLF 207 Digit Edition, 3dr, pan roof, sat nav, 33k, white

£13795 NO BUYERS FEES

MERCEDES CLS 2.2D AMG
Premium Shooting Brake Auto in Tellur Silver, 52,000 miles, sunroof, sat nav etc
£19,495

61 SSANGYONG KORANDO 2.0 EX Diesel Automatic
63,000 miles, met orange, 4x4
£5,495

54 PORSCHE 911 CARRERA 2 S 3.8 Auto
Silver with leather black leather trim, 74,000 miles
£21,995

63 MERCEDES A180 Blue Efficancy Sport
South Sea blue with cream trim, 37,000 miles
£10,695

MERCEDES C220D Premium Sport Estate
In silver, 60,000 miles, pan roof, leather, nav
£15,695

15 RANGE ROVER SPORT 3.0 TDV6 HSE Auto Aruba Gold with tan leather, 37,000 miles, pan roof, service plan **£32,995**
64 RANGE ROVER 3.0 Diesel HSE Auto white with black roof, 52,000 miles, too many extras to list, fantastic value **£30,995**
54 PORSCHE 911 CARRERA 2 S 3.8 Auto In silver with black leather trim, 74,000 miles **£21,995**
67 SEAT ALHAMBRA 2.0 TDi (184) XCELLENCE 7-SEATER In black 21,000 miles.....**£20,495**
66 MERCEDES CLS 2.2D AMG PREMIUM SHOOTING BRAKE AUTO in tellur silver 52,000 miles sunroof, sat-nav, etc **£19,495**
16 BMW 330D Luxury Automatic in white, 14,000 miles with leather, sat-nav, superb example .....**Reduced to £17,995**
15 LEXUS RX 450h v6 Auto Hybrid In black, 82,000 miles, sat nav, camera etc **£17,495**
17 SEAT ALHAMBRA 2.0 TDi (184) SE Lyx Auto 7-seater In black, 57,000 miles **£16,995**
07 JAGUAR XKR 4.2 CONVERTIBLE in metallic black with black leather, 51,000 miles **£16,995**
65 MERCEDES C220D Premium Sport Estate In silver, 60,000 miles, pan roof, leather, nav.....**£15,695**
15 MERCEDES E220 AMG line 2.1D Auto in cavansite blue, 28,000 miles, leather heated seats, sat nav etc **£14,995**
65 MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER GX 3H PHEV 2.0 Electric/Hybrid in Diamond White, 33,000 miles, half leather, FSH, AWD, free Road Tax **£14,995**
14 BMW i3 E-Drive 60AH Automatic In met-grey, 21,000 miles, 1 owner, sat-nav etc.....**£13,495**
14 MERCEDES SLK 250 CDi Sport Auto White with black leather, 31,000 miles **£12,995**
04 JAGUAR XK8 4.2 V8 Auto Coupe in met red with cream leather, 53,000 miles **£12,995**
64 VW GOLF 2.0 TDi Blue Motion Auto GT 5dr Met black, 25,000 miles.....**£11,795**
15 KIA OPTIMA 3 ECO-DYNA 1.7 CRDi 5dr in silver, 26,000 miles, pan sunroof, huge spec.....**£10,995**
63 VW TIGUAN MATCH 2.0 TDi Auto 4-Motion In met grey, 40,000 miles, high spec.....**£10,795**
66 SKODA OCTAVIA SCOUT 2.0 TDi 4x4 in white, 81,000 miles, 1 owner, sat-nav **£10,495**
62 BMW XI 2.0D X-LINE met-white with tan leather 43,000 mile 4x4 at .....**Reduced by £500 to £9,995**
60 LANDROVER FREELANDER 2.2 SD4 HSE AUTO In met grey 68,000 miles 4x4 at **£10,295**
54 AUDI RS6 AVANT QUATTRO 4.2 V8 Auto in met silver with black leather, 100,000 miles, classic at **£9,995**
14 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCi Titanium in red with black trim 40,000 miles **£9,995**
64 MINI COUNTRYMAN COOPER 1.6 ALL 4 In starlight blue, 37,000 miles, over £3000 in extras **£9,495**
14 MERCEDES A180 Blue Elegance Sport Met grey, 61,000 miles, £20 road tax **£9,495**
67 NISSAN MICRA ACCENTA LIMITED EDITION 5dr in white, 17,000 miles, under Nissan warranty **£8,995**
65 FIAT 500 X CROSS + 1.4 Multiair In met blue, 37,000 miles, half leather, FSH **£8,995**
17 FORD B-MAX 1.5 Diesel Zetec Navigator in black, 16,000 miles, practical with low running costs.....**£8,995**
14 VAUXHALL MOKKA 1.7 CDTi SE AUTOMATIC In black, 20,000 miles **£8,995**
14 KIA CARENS 2 1.7 CRDi Automatic 7 seater In blue, 43,000 miles, bluetooth, PS.....**£8,695**
65 HONDA CIVIC 1.6i-D Tec SR 5dr In twilight blue, 75,000 miles, sat nav, leather etc **£8,495**
63 MERCEDES B200 1.8D Sport in black, 54,000 miles, pan roof, sat nav.....**£8,495**
65 AUDI AI SE 1.6TDi 5 dr In grey 71,000 miles, very nice example **£8,495**
66 SKODA OCTAVIA 14 TSi SE In met-grey 31,000 mies, petrol, 5dr **£9,995**
16 RENAULT CLIO 1.5 Dci iconic nav 5dr met black with black leather, 22,000 miles **£8,295**
14 SKODA YETI 2.0TDi CR 4x4 in black, 58,000 miles, very practical .....**Reduced by £1000 to £6,995**
66 FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC white edition 3dr, 18,000 miles, blue roof, etc **£7,995**
13 HONDA CIVIC I-VTEC ES-T 1.8cc in Woodland Green, 38,000 miles, Sat Nav, folding mirrors.....**£7,695**
65 FORD FIESTAn 1.5 TDCi TITANIUM 5dr In candy blue, 37,000 miles, high spec.....**£7,695**
09 MERCEDES E350 CDi Sport Coupe Auto in met grey with tan leather, 89,000 miles, Sat Nav.....**£7,495**
17 FIAT 500 LOUNGE 1.2 In met grey, 27,000 miles, £20 road tax **£7,295**
15 PEUGEOT 3008 1.6 HDi CROSSWAY In black with leather seats, 58,000 miles, 1 owner.....**£7,295**
65 CITROEN C4 CACTUS BLUE HDi FEEL 1.6D In red, 37,000 miles, DAB radio, free road tax .....**Reduced to £6,995**
64 VW POLO 1.0 S 5dr in red, 27,000 miles, £20 road tax **£6,995**
64 FIAT DOBLO 1.6 Diesel Eleganza Multi-jet in met blue, 41,000 miles, 1 owner **£6,995**
61 BMW 320D SE Coupe Met silver with black leather, 54,000 miles, stylish coupe **£6,995**
57 MERCEDES SLK 350 AUTO in black with grey leather, heated seats, 59,000 miles, with extras.....**£6,995**
16 FIAT 500 LOUNGE 1.2 in white, 9,000 miles, glass roof, sat nav, superb example .....**Reduced t0 £6,995**
13 FORD FOCUS 1.6 Automatic Zetec Estate in red, 35,000 miles from new.....**£6,995**
12 HONDA CRV 2.2 Diesel Ex In met blue, 86,000 miles, sat nav, pan roof, leather.....**£6,995**
64 SKODA ROOMSTER 1.2 BLACK EDITION, 41,000 miles, with glass roof, sat nav **£6,795**
64 SEAT IBIZA 1.2 TSi i-Tech 3dr In met grey, 27,000 miles, £30 road tax **£6,795**
66 KIA PICANTO 1.0 SE 5dr in black, 26,000 miles, 1 owner **£6,495**
65 SEAT IBIZA 14 TOCA 3dr in red, 16,000 miles, with Sat Nav **£6,495**
65 PEUGEOT 2008 Active 1.6 HDi In met grey, 46,000 miles, low running costs **£6,495**
63 VW POLO 1.2 MATCH 5de in red, 41,000 miles, alloys, A/C etc **£6,495**
18 DACIA SANDERO 1.0 AMBIANCE 5dr In white, 14,000 miles, full service history **£6,495**
13 FORD FIESTA 1.6 ZETEC 5dr Automatic In silver, 54,000 miles **£6,495**
11 FORD FIESTA 14 TITANIUM 5Dr AUTOMATIC Met silver 27,000 miles, very nice example **£6,495**
64 VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 Limited Edition 3dr Yellow with black roof, 22,000 miles, A/C etc.....**£6,295**
61 FORD FIESTA 1.4 ZETEC 5dr Automatic In silver, 41,000 miles, 2 owners **£5,995**
14 VW HIGH UP 1.0 TECHNOLOGY 3dr In black 37,00 miles, Free Road Tax **£5,995**
61 MAZDA MX5 2.0 SE Roadster Met grey, 93,000 miles with metal folding roof **£5,695**
14 TOYOTA AYGO X-CITE (new shape) In orange, 51,000 miles, low running costs.....**£5,695**
59 MAZDA MX5 ROADSTER 2.0 Sport In met grey, 96,000 miles, very nice example **£5,295**
16 FIAT PANDA 1.2 Easy In white, 1 owner, 66,000 miles, fantastic value **£4,995**
16 SUZUKI CELERIO 1.0 SZ2 5dr in black 26,000 miles low running costs **£4,495**
61 FIAT 500 TWIN AIR PLUS In black 71,000 miles Free Road Tax **£3,695**
59 TOYOTA AY-GO 1.0 vvT-i Platinum 5dr In silver, 62,000 miles, £20 road tax **£2,995**

15 RANGE ROVER SPORT 3.0 TDV6 HSE AUTO
Aruba Gold with tan leather, 37,000 miles, pan roof, etc & service plan
£32,995

64 RANGE ROVER 3.0 DIESEL HSE Auto
52,000 miles, too many extras to list, fantastic value
£30,995

07 JAGUAR XKR 4.2 CONVERTIBLE
In metallic black with black leather, 51,000 miles
£16,995

11 AUDI TT S LINE 2.0 TDi QUARTRO CONVERTIBLE
In white 50,000 miles, leather/suede seats, Bose sound
£8,995

64 MINI COUNTRYMAN COOPER 1.6 ALL 4
In starlight blue, 37,000 miles, over £3000 in extras
£9,495

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Barry and District Ladies Skittles League

THE latest scores for the Barry and District Ladies Skittles League for February 24 are as follows:

Division 1:

Cigar Ladies 252 (A McCarthy 25), Challengers 215 (L Morgan 27); Bakers Dozen 269 (J Mullins 27), Space Finders 230 (L Jones 34); Allsorts 264 (R Dane 29), Friends & Family 284 (S Wilmore 29).

Division 2:

Persuaders 241 (C Thomas 27), Clickies 144 (A Batt, D Rowe 20); Fallen Angels 238 (R Phillips 29), Bobby's Girls 251 (P Soloman 28); Colcot Ladies 230 (J Holland, D Mansbridge, A Singleton 23), Family Affair 234 (A Dyer, L Williams 26); Rugby Triers 231 (S Cogbill 29), Red Admiral 238 (C Blythe 24).

Division 3:

Hillbillies 304 (F Jellings, C Scotcher 30), Liberals 220 (J Mackenzie 31); Livin-on-a-Spare 300 (S Aston, A Finn 34), Airways Angels 322 (A Sales, J Thomas 31); Little Devils 231 (T Jones 25), Off the Rails 244 (P Knapman 26); Sea View Ladies 222 (R Leach, F Butler, K Lance 23), Vixens 225 (M Marks 26); Witchill Widows 295 (M McKinney 30), Boozy Birds 336 (A Lloyd 35); Bandits 204 (J McAndrew 27), Westenders 259 (J Diffield 26).

Division 4:

Merry Makers 195 (B Walker 25), Nite Outers 202 (K Blackmore 27); Witchill Wanderers 234 (V Kerslake 30), Drifters 316 (K Courtman 33); Westend Rollers 171 (T Ceriani 25), Rebels 234 (M Russell, C Carter 25).

AB

Barry and District Men's Skittles League

THE latest results from the Barry and District Men's Skittles League are as follows:

Division 1: Merrymen 275 (A Buckland 30), Park Lads 255 (I Tweddle 29); Billy Whizz 290 (J Snook 33), Posties 260 (M Rees 28); Blue Monkey 262 (C Holland 27), Bunker Boys 248 (D L Hewitson 28); Cavaliers 299 (G Stephenson 34), Geest 272 (L Galsworthy 30); Sea View 357 (G Evans 39), British Rail 309 (D Slugg 36); 49ers 296 (B Hopkins 33), Willie Wombles 293 (S Cannon 34).

League: Merrymen 28; 49ers 24; Blue Monkey 20; Billy Whizz 20; Cavaliers 20; Willie Wombles 18; Bunker Boys 13; Posties 10; Sea View 10; Park Lads 9; British Rail 8; Geest 8.

Division 2: Tynny Lads 287 (S Germon 28), Park Rangers 277 (T Power 32); Cannon Balls 281 (J Bond 29), H Bells 280 (K Smith 28); Barry Park B 267 (R Freeman 27), Castle Boys 264 (S Sewell 28); Hairy Lemons 263 (D Gill 32), Mighty Dockers 265 (M Conway 30); Exiles 253 (B Stait, K Tudor, E Collins, I Ladner 24), KP Rejects 285 (M Stringer 30).

League: Mighty Dockers 24; Cannon Balls 22; Tynny Lads 22; H Bells 20; KP Rejects 20; Park Rangers 15; Barry Park B 15; Colcot Boys 14; Hairy Lemons 13; Witchill Poachers 9; Castle Boys 8; Exiles 4.

Division 3: Witchill Nomads 333 (T Richards 33), Alternatives 342 (A N Other 1, S Davies 34); Abercrete 265 (J Arnold 29), BP Breakaways 268 (P Gardner 27); Royalists 262 (D Britton 32), Ex Servicemen 273 (D Williams 29); C.U.D. 241 (B Rees 26), Billy Bluebirds 269 (A Dyer, P Germon, R Ferguson, A James 25).

League: Alternatives 20; BP Breakaways 18; Cocoa Nuts 17; Ex Servicemen 16; Billy Flyers 16; Billy Bluebirds 16; Royalists 15; Witchill Nomads 7; C.U.D. 3; Abercrete 2.

View all results and league tables at www.barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

Send your sports stories to The Gem

Barry and District Clubs League

THE latest results from the Barry and District Clubs League are as follows:

Cadoxton Cons 4, Wyndham Cons 11; Rhoose Social 9, Moors Boys 6; Romilly Railway 9, West End 6.

League: Rhoose Social 145, Romilly Railway 145, West End 136, Wyndham Cons 134, Liberals 131, Moors Boys 128, Cadoxton Cons 126.

Skittles Division 1: Slammers 3, Rugby Club 4; Rhoose Social B 2, Liberals C 5; Rhoosters 2, Barries Boys 5; Sea View Exiles 7, King William XII 0; Cambrian Flyers 2, Rhoose Social A 5; West End C 1.5, West End D 5.5.

League: West End D 106.0, Rhoose Social C 95.0, Sea View Exiles 90.0, Rugby Club 87.5, Rhoose Social A 77.5, Barry Town FC 77.0, Allsorts 73.5, King William XII 73.0. Barries Boys 72.0, West End C 69.5, Liberals C 67.5, Slammers 64.5, Rhoosters 53.5, Rhoose Social B 51.0, Cambrian Flyers 47.0, Liberals A 43.5.

Snooker Division 1: Wyndham Cons A 4, Liberators 1; Rhoose Social B 1, Penarth Cons A 4; Harbour B 5, Penarth Cons B 0.

League: Harbour B 74, West End C 71, Cadoxton Cons Z 65, Savoy B 58, Cadoxton Cons B 54, Penarth Cons A 54, Wyndham Cons A 50, Rhoose Social C 33, Penarth Cons B 28, Rhoose Social B 28.

* Liberators 19.

Snooker Division 2: Services Social B 4, West End B 1; Market Street A 3, Wyndham Cons D 2; Savoy C 3, Harbour A 2; Sully Sports A 3, West End A 2; Market Street B 2, Cadoxton Cons A 3.

League: Market Street C 68, Savoy C 61, Services Social B 61; Market Street A 57; West End A 57; Wyndham Cons D 55; Market Street B 48; Harbour A 45; Cadoxton Cons A 44; Sully Sports A 39; West End B 35.

* = points deducted

View all results and league tables at www.barryleagues.co.uk.

St Mary's Golf Club news

AFTER more than a week of 'rain stopped play', a single day's break in the weather encouraged 14 members of St Mary's Senior section onto the rain-soaked fairways for a Pairs Better Ball stableford competition.

Given the course conditions, it was decided to limit play to a shortened course of just 12 holes. Despite the sodden ground and the difficulty of finding plugged balls even on the fairways, the sun made a very rare appearance and the players enjoyed the morning's play. None more so than the winning pair, Mike Tayler and Norman Lloyd who shot a remarkable nine better than par score of 33 points over the 12 holes.

Sharing 28 points, Gordon Martin and partner Phil Hatton tied for second place with the pairing of Steve Phillips and John Mabbett. The highlight of the day came at the 150 yard par three second hole where Tayler sank a 20 foot putt to make birdie.

Bridgend Bridge Club latest

ON February 26: First, Glyn Williams and Alan Heath; second, Graham Jones and Irene Thomas; third, John Evans and Bill Turner. The winners on handicap were Glyn Williams and Alan Heath.

On February 27: First, Maggie Ashpole and Joan Ralph; second, Mike Williams and Barry Collins; third, Eileen Mahoney and Jeff Barnett. The winners on handicap were Maggie Ashpole and Joan Ralph.

A teams competition was played on February 28: First, Gill Wybrow, Glyn Williams, Irene Thomas and Graham Jones; second, Linda Jenkins, Ann Fox, Emer Disley and Bill Turner.

Regular club nights take place at 7pm on Wednesday and Friday evenings at Nolton Church Hall.

On Thursday afternoons at 1:45pm there is a gentle bridge session when help is available with the bidding. All sessions are played in a friendly manner, visitors and new members are always welcome.

Golf club welcomes new Ladies' Captain

THE 99th Brynhill Ladies' Golf Club AGM in February welcomed the new Ladies' captain, Lisa Taylor.

The outgoing captain, Jo Kirkpatrick wished Lisa good luck and best wishes for her captaincy and hoped that the weather would be great for the 2020 golfing year. After the formalities of the AGM, Lisa invited the ladies on behalf of herself, Jo Kirkpatrick and Glynis Gould to enjoy the buffet which they had provided.

Lisa hosted her first event as captain with a St David's Day Evening Social where 30 ladies attended and enjoyed a lovely meal of cawl, Welsh cheeses, cakes and coffee. Each was given a Welsh gift from the captain which was much appreciated by all. Lisa asked the ladies to enter the quiz that she had prepared – Pin the Tail on the Dragon – and guess the Welsh items hidden in a box.

Much fun was had by all with Jo Hopkins the winner of the quiz and Chris Hopkins the winner of 'Pin the Tail'. The captain thanked the caterer for a lovely meal and thanked the bar staff.

Kath Birch, assistant bar manager is leaving Brynhill: she will be greatly missed. Lisa presented her with a bouquet of flowers and card on behalf of the Ladies of Brynhill.

The next event for the Ladies' section is the Ladies' Captain's Drive-In on March 24.

If you are interested in becoming a member of Brynhill Golf Club, call the office on 01446 720277 ext.1 or the professional shop on Ext 2.

Lisa presents Welsh gifts to fellow golfers

Pupil earns Welsh rugby cap

YSGOL Gymraeg Bro Morganwg pupil Mason Grady has earned his first under-20s cap for Wales. On February 21 Mason started in the first 15 for Wales against France. They won the game 14-11.

Mason, year 13, has always been talented in rugby. He has won several caps in junior and senior Wales' team and has represented Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg at rugby. He is also part of the Cardiff Blues squad and plays regularly for Pontypridd RFC. At 17 years old, this was his first time playing for the under-20s team.

The game was held in Parc Eirias under difficult weather conditions. However, that did not stand in the way for Mason and his Welsh team-mates to take the lead. His brother, Cory Allen, was also there to support him.

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morganwg headteacher Hywel Price said: "We are very proud of Mason and his achievements. To win a cap for your country is an honour, but this also shows how talented Mason is to have been chosen for this team. He continues to be a polite pupil here with us at school where he is studying his A-Levels. We cannot wait to see what the future holds for this star pupil!"

Mason continues the long line of Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg pupils who have represented their country in sports.

Llongyfarchiadau Mason!

On and off the Turf
with Brian Lee

Jack wins by a nose

MERTHYR Mawr's Jack Tudor riding the top weighted *Kearney Hill* in the Conditional and Amateur Riders National Hunt Flat race at Doncaster on February 29 managed to get his mount home by a nose – the shortest official winning distance – from *Nells Son*, who was racing for the first time in public.

Kearney Hill, a winner at Musselburgh on its only previous start, was returned at odds of 2-1. Jack, a former pony racing rider of note, is stable jockey to Ogmore-By-Sea's Christian Williams and has done really well since joining the paid ranks.

Vale riders on good form

ALAN Johns and Adam Wedge who ride for the Vale's Tim Vaughan and Evan Williams respectively, both rode winners at the recent Wincanton meeting.

Alan, riding Vic Dartnall's *Admiral Secret*, landed the handicap chase on the 9-4 joint-favourite and Adam took the mares' handicap hurdle on Alexandra Dunn's *Broke Away*, who was returned at odds of 11-2. While at the Countryside Alliance Point-To-Point Steeplechases at Badbury Rings, Cowbridge's Byron Moorcroft was successful on the Mickey Bowen-trained former winning steeplechaser *Curious Carlos*, owned by his breeder Carl Pyne. Reigning Welsh point-to-point champion rider Bradley Gibbs took the second division of the restricted on *No Limitations*.

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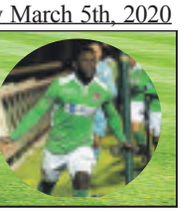

Treherbert's narrow victory over Llantwit

LLANTWIT Major RFC were beaten for only the second time this season as they narrowly lost an enthralling encounter 20–19 at Treherbert.

The visitors will rue their lacklustre start to the game as Treherbert quietly dominated the opening exchanges and took advantage of a now far too familiar trait of Llantwit's – picking up penalties.

Two penalty kicks put Treherbert in the driving seat before Llantwit had hardly touched the ball and they extended their lead with a converted try from their dominant pack.

The Llantwit supporters who had make the long trip must have been now thinking it was going to be a long cold afternoon with the score already at 0–13.

The visitors slowly started to come back into the game and had good periods of possession and some encouraging phases of play, only to be thwarted by some bad decision making and a couple of unnecessary miracle final passes being thrown.

One thing this side has though in abundance is character and bit by bit they clawed themselves into the game and, before the break, when rewarded with a penalty line out in the 22, they finally put everything together to execute a great driving maul over the white-wash with hooker Huw Williams touching down.

The half time score was 13–5.

The second half was much more like the Llantwit Major of old as they set about playing their running patterns and were soon rewarded with loose-head prop and captain Geraint David crashing over in the corner. Outside half Loz Howley slotted over the conversion.

However Treherbert were not to be outdone and soon restored order with a converted try of their own with a quite brilliant driving maul travelling some 30 metres or more, making the score 20–12.

So once again Llantwit needed to show character – and they did – battling back with David again crossing this time in the opposite corner after a great spell of forward control in the 22. Howley again converted from the touchline to bring the score to 20–19.

The game, which had been played at a great speed throughout, went up a notch again and became a right battle, with huge hits and runs going in all over the park as Llantwit attempted to get field position for a last attack, and the home side battled to keep them out. With no quarter being given it was left to the referee to award two penalties to Llantwit, which they elected to kick for goal, but first scrum half Ryan Evans' attempt fell short and then bizarrely, right at the death, Howley had a slot well within his range only to see the wind which had dropped whisk up from nowhere and knock the ball off the kicking tee as he started his run.

The hurried retake sailed wide. It would seem it was just not to be Llantwit's day and to the delight of the home side, the final whistle brought an end to a disappointing but eventful rugby afternoon.

Llantwit picked up a losing bonus point but will be reflecting on that first period, and on not having more patience when in control of the game. The man of the match was replacement back row Dan Farrel, who had a great game both in defence and in carries made. Further mention should go to captain Geraint David, whose work rate was exceptional throughout.

The Llantonians will now look to regroup quickly as they are on the road again this week as they travel into the capital to take on Llandaff North. Kick off is at the earlier time of 1.30pm.

AH

Bridge Club news

Vale of Glamorgan

THE latest results from the Vale of Glamorgan Bridge Club for March 2 are as follows:

First, Kevin Maddox and Mike Best, 65.91%; second, John Raymond and Alan Lewis, 60.51%; third, Debbie and Simon Richards, 58.52%. **LE**

Penllyn

THE results from Penllyn Bridge Club for February are:

February 6: 19 pairs, first, Myrtle Hansard and Lyn Chamberlain; second, Marian East and Barbara Easterbrook; third, John Lord and Jo Ilsley.

February 13: 16 pairs, first, Helen and Mike Ruttley; second, Allan Evans and Alan Beckwith; third, Marian East and Barbara Easterbrook.

February 20: 14 pairs, first, Alan Beckwith and Allan Evans; second, Eric and Anne Sparks; third, Rita Williams and Gill Harding.

February 27: Robert Brown Cup Competition – 18 pairs, first, Judith and Colin Nunn; second, Gill Wybrow and Jo Ilsley; third, Eric and Anne Sparks. **CN**

Llantonian

THE results for February 3 are:

First, Cathy Mangles and Julie Phelps; second, Carolyn Leonard and Meryl Phillips; third, Colin Hawkins and Alan Beckwith. February 17: First, Eifion Watkins and Alan Beckwith; second, Hilary Bevington and Ros Martin-Jones; third, Mike Stephens and Gill Daniels. February 24: first, Hilary Sheldon and Sandy Smith; second, Allan Evans and Norma Barber; third, Gill Daniels and Mike Stephens.

The club meets every Monday at the Llantonian Hall, call Alan Beckwith on 01446 775836 for further information. **AB**

Barrivale

THE results for the Barrivale Bridge WBU sims heat on February 25 are as follows:

First, Mike Best and Mick Green, 72.22%; second, Mike Close and Kay Dyer, 59.72%; third, Simon and Debbie Richards, 59.38%.The handicap winners were Mick Green and Mike Best. Call 01446 418380, 01446 733425, or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday. Sessions for beginners on Fridays from 10am-12.30pm and on Thursday for assisted play from 1.30pm-4pm at the Barry Uniting Church, Heol y Llongau, Barry CF634AP. **LH**

Vale teams are life savers

AT the recent Welsh Pool Lifesaving Championships, Vale Surf Life Saving Club were represented across all age groups from Nippers through to Masters.

A team of 22 Nippers, 10 of whom had never competed before, travelled to Swansea for their pool championships. Every Nipper produced personal best times in all of their races; in the Flipper race, Gethin Barber (9th), Kaiya Takata (10th), Elinor Burrows (8th). Joanie Nolan, one of the youngest team members, finished 9th. Harry Nicholas won gold and Griff Stoneham won silver. In the Manikin, Harry won his second gold and Elinor won silver. Oliver Nolan finished 9th place and both Summer Hurley and Katie Oakley knocked seconds off their previous personal best times. In the board race, Harry won his third gold medal of the day and in doing so, set a new Welsh record. Kaiya finished in 4th, Gethin 7th, Michael Habberfield 8th and Joanie 9th. Isla James, the youngest competitor, put in an impressive performance to finish 10th. Congratulations to Summer and Michael for their new personal best times in the board race. In the boys' tube rescue, Michael and Harry won gold and Kaiya and Sholah Hurley finished 6th. The Youth, Seniors and Masters combined team finished in fourth place overall (third placed Welsh club) at the end of the competition. Many personal best times were achieved and medals were won by:

Layla Stamp, Bronze Manikin Carry; Emily Parker, Silver Super Lifesaver, Silver Manikin Tow; Bronze Manikin Carry with Fins; Abi Baker and Jess Peters, Bronze Rope Throw; James Blaby, Gold Manikin Carry, Gold Super Lifesaver, Gold Rescue Medley; Adam Reed, Bronze Rescue Medley; Simon Parker, Gold Rescue Medley, Bronze Manikin Tow, Bronze Manikin Carry With Fins. In the team events, the Youth team won a Bronze medal in the Mixed Pool Lifesaver Relay with the Master gaining a Bronze in the Mixed Manikin Relay. The Open team achieved a Silver medal in the Mixed Pool Lifesaver Relay, a Bronze in the Female Relay and a Bronze in the Male Manikin Relay.

The Junior team finished fifth out of the Welsh clubs competing, the Senior team finishing second and the Masters team finishing eighth, all of which contributed to the brilliant overall third position in Wales. All sections of the club are now training hard for the GB Pool Lifesaving Championships in April.

Latest Cowbridge Darts League scores

ON Tuesday, February 25 a full programme of league matches was played.

At the top of the table the Highwayman Inn beat the Edmondes A 12-10, helped along by Tom Verrill (Highwayman) for the second league match in a row, hitting a 180. However, the Edmondes B extended their lead at the top by beating the Edmondes C 16-5. Dai Thomas (Edmondes B) hit a 100 three-dart-out.

With the Victoria Inn having a bye, the Hairy Farmers, winning 16-5 against the Red Lion Inn, took full advantage and climbed up to third position in the league table. In the remaining match of the evening the Farmers Arms beat the Town Hall Criers 13-8. In this match Nigel Thomas hit a 180.

Present league standings after 12 weeks are: Edmondes B (159 points), Highwayman Inn (146), Hairy Farmers (120), Victoria Inn (115), Farmers Arms (112), Edmondes A (106), Town Hall Criers (102), Edmondes C (85) and Red Lion Inn (70).

This coming Tuesday, March 10 another full programme of league matches is scheduled. The Edmondes A hosts the Hairy Farmers, the Farmers Arms hosts the Edmondes B, the Victoria Inn hosts the Highwayman Inn and the Edmondes C hosts the Red Lion Inn. Town Hall Criers have a Bye.

All matches start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome. For further information e-mail Paul at: cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT